The North Carolina Whig.

"Be true to God, to your Country, and to your Duty."

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THOMAS J. HOLTON,
EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

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Poetry.

SONG.

BY CAROLAN.

Written for and addressed to the Marine Washington Total Abstinence Society of the port of Charleston, S. C.

Though forests wave between us,
And rivers intervene;
Though seas should separate us,
And empires lie between,
My spirit shall be with you,
On shore or on the deep,
And join you in full chorus—
"Our sacred pledge we'll keep,
"Our sacred pledge we'll keep."
And join you in full chorus—
"Our sacred pledge we'll keep,
"Our sacred pledge we'll keep."

And oh! my gallant brethren,
When you are far away,
Surrounded by the dangers
That threaten you at sea—
Though lightnings flash around you,
And tempests madly sweep—
Remember, oh! remember
The sacred pledge to keep,
The sacred pledge to keep.
Remember, oh! remember
The sacred pledge to keep,
The sacred pledge to keep.

And when you reach the haven,
Where joyfully and gaily
Will stay to gain your favor
With many an artful smile,
Let not the sharks entice you
To destruction, dark and deep,
But like a noble seaman
Your pledge of honor keep,
Your pledge of honor keep.
But like a noble seaman
Your pledge of honor keep,
Your pledge of honor keep.

And should we never meet again,
Until we reach that shore
Where life's tempestuous voyage
With you and I is o'er,
I hope to hear our Captain say,
Come up my faithful crew,
These starry gems and glittering crowns
Are waiting here for you,
Are waiting here for you.
These starry gems and glittering crowns
Are waiting here for you,
Are waiting here for you.

Columbia, S. C., April 14, 1856.

Miscellaneous.

THE SAILOR AND THE COUNT,

A STORY OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

CHAPTER IV.

But to return to our young hero. Rebecqui was born at Marseilles, of a poor but honest family. He was an only child, and his parents had given him an education which no school could afford to a peasant's son—that which is taught at the fireside of a virtuous father and mother. Unfortunately, the former was called away, while his son was still young, or perhaps his influence might have checked that spirit of adventure which had very early begun to develop itself in the boy's character. It has been observed that the inhabitants of seaport towns are more enterprising than men living inland, and Rebecqui was no exception. As soon as his father died, he hired himself as a common sailor on board a merchant ship, trading to the Levant, and was returning from one of his voyages when he had the good fortune to save the life of Count D'Aubigny.

Marseilles, about this time, began to form secret clubs, which were in communication with Paris, and Rebecqui, who became one of the earliest agitators, soon helped to throw Aix and Marseilles into commotion. Feelings long smothered broke out in a flame, the disaffected rose and attacked the nobility in their strongholds, where the latter kept up a sort of feudal state, unmindful of the suffering of their poorer neighbors. Rebecqui left his ship, placed his mother in a secluded retreat, a few miles from Marseilles, and putting himself at the head of a chosen band of Marseillais, marched to the capital, and remained there until the fall of the Girondists; when, indignant at the conduct of Paris, he returned to his native city. It is not necessary to describe at length the horrors that he and his companions endured in trying to escape death. They who are conversant with the history of the French Revolution will remember that Rebecqui was one of those who used to meet at a lone house at Charenton, a village about two miles from Paris. To escape detection they were always obliged to proceed hither by different routes.

It was there they planned the overthrow of the monarchy. But their ideas of republicanism being of unspotted parity, they could not sanction the atrocities that they saw committed every day by others. This being the case a price was set on their heads; many were taken and executed. Four contrived to leave Paris by stealth, who with Rebecqui, were hunted by bloodhounds, were obliged to take refuge in a ruined catacomb, near the little town of St. Elmio, and would have been starved to death but for the devotion of one of the men's sisters, who contrived to furnish them with a little bread.

Sometimes they had but a pound a-day between the five. This, with vegetables and a little fruit from her own gardens, was all the nourishment they had to keep them alive. The proscribed remained in this asylum some time; but, at last, even this retreat was suspected. They were then obliged to separate, Rebecqui returning to his native city to raise fresh agitation there. He found his mother greatly distressd on his account, as he was her only child, and she loved him as so good a son deserved to be loved. But he remained with her only a few days.

CHAPTER V.

One evening, about the latter end of August, a troop of three hundred men was encamped in the wood, about five miles from Marseilles. They were lying in various attitudes under the trees. The moon, which poured a flood of light on the place where they lay, allowed their faces to be seen.—They reclined on the soft and fragrant beds of wild thyme which is as plentiful in that climate as grass is in more northern ones. Their bronzed faces, their warlike appearance, their Phrygian head-dresses, with a small green branch stuck in them instead of feathers, and their strangely shaped guns, gave them a singular aspect. Apart from the rest, stood a group of about twenty, who were listening with great attention to the words of a tall handsome young man. He seemed to be differing with them about the plan of an attack, which they were anxious to commence, he to delay. His flashing eyes, his animated gestures, his manly countenance, and picturesque costume—brought before the mind some of those splendid portraits of Raphael's, which rivet the eye wherever they are met with. It was Rebecqui. He seemed not to gain his point, for he said to his officers—

'I must have an hour's delay; when that time is expired, follow me.'

So saying he took his way towards the ravine which led to the castle of Count D'Aubigny.

That same evening the Count and Clarisse were in the saloon of the chateau. The father was reclining on a large sofa placed at one end. His daughter was sitting at his side, reading to him. The garrison not having been molested for some time, had been thrown off their guard. The evening was lovely. The excessive heat of the day had been succeeded by a delicious breeze, when a strange noise was heard outside the wall at the back of the castle, near the forests, as if pieces of rock were falling into the moat. It was the noise of men scaling the walls. At this moment, before the Count could rise from his seat, a trap door opened, not far from the spot where they were sitting, and an armed man sprang on the floor, crying—

'Fly for your lives!—the castle is surrounded!—your men are overpowered!—the republicans have fired it in several places!—You cannot resist but I will save you.'

During this scene Clarisse was fixed to the spot without power of speaking; but soon recovering, she placed herself before her father, as if to protect him. Rebecqui—for it was he—slightly smiled, and going up to the Count, who seemed paralyzed, said—

'If you value your own, or your daughter's life, follow me."

D'Aubigny, taking his child's hand, replied—

'I put my trust in you; do with me what you will, but protect the life and honor of her who is dearer to me than life.'

Rebecqui made them descend in silence through the trap-door, and went with them down a narrow flight of stairs. The door had scarcely shut behind them when they heard a noise as if the room had been burst into. This, with the firing of musquetry and a strong smell of gunpowder, which reached them even in the bowels of the earth, made them quicken their steps. They walked without speaking, Rebecqui leading the way, and lighting them with a torch. The passage was cut out of the solid rock, had a damp and disagreeable smell, and was evidently unknown to the count, not having been used for ages.

It was clear to M. D'Aubigny that he had been lulled into a false security, that the castle had been surprised, his retainers cut to pieces, and that all his property would be burnt. He also saw that he owed his own life, and that of his daughter, to the generosity of the man before him, whom he instantly recognized to be the sailor who had saved him from a watery grave some years before. By this time they had reached the end of the subterraneous passage, which terminated in the rock before mentioned.

Here the sounds of warfare could be distinctly heard, the smell of fire was very strong, and they saw that the trees nearest the castle had already caught fire, owing to their being dried by the scorching sun.

CHAPTER VI.

Rebecqui hurried them along the stony road, which terminated in the valley, and springing on a ledge of rock, where grew some large trees, and, putting aside what appeared to be a mass of entangled brushwood, disclosed the entrance of a cavern. The opening was about seven feet high, gradually widening as they advanced, and terminating at last in a vast chamber, the roof of which was arched over like a cathedral. Rebecqui, placing his torch in a hole in the wall, and pointing to a pile of flambeau lying in the corner, left them, saying—

'Do not be alarmed; I pledge my life for your safety.'

The Count's first thought was to console his child; but although her face belied her words, she told him not to be uneasy about her—that their situation was, in her opinion, very romantic—that she had all her life been looking for an adventure and having found one, was determined to play the heroine until Rebecqui came to release them.

Her father, seeing her so cheerful, proposed that they should explore their new habitation; but in order to do this it was necessary to have more light. Immediately a dozen torches were taken from the heap in the corner, kindled, and placed at intervals along the wall. It was quite evident that some one had recently inhabited the cave, or else that hasty preparations had been made for expected guests. A heap of vine-cuttings was placed in a niche, serving for a rude fire-place. There were also two piles of soft moss, with large military cloaks thrown over them, no doubt intended to make rough beds. There was, likewise, sufficient wine and bread to prevent their suffering hunger for at least one day. The light of the flaring torches, falling on the objects around, gave them the most fantastic appearance. The sides of the cavern were covered with creeping vegetation, mixed with veins of marble, and from the roof hung stalactites, which, meeting the piles that had been formed by the droppings from the rock, appeared like huge columns. In one of the most retired nooks was a large oval basin, formed by nature, full of clear water, which flowed from a small spring in the side of the rock. Hence ran a babbling stream, which, pouring out of the mouth of the cavern, dashed foaming into the valley beneath. The floor, also, was covered with a thick crust of the same material as the stalactites which prevented, effectually, any damp.

The Count, who thought that Clarisse appeared fatigued, made her as good a couch as circumstances would admit and soon had the gratification of seeing her fall into a profound sleep. As the air of the cavern felt very chilly, he set fire to the vine cuttings, and then turned to contemplate his daughter. She was reposing as calm as an infant, with her head resting on her arm, and her cheek slightly flushed. Her graceful attitude, as the light of the torches fell on her, made her appear like some wood nymph who had taken shelter in this retreat for the night.

He then wrapped himself in his cloak, and went to the rough archway, looking out upon the valley. As he stood upon the edge of the rock, a melancholy scene presented itself. The flames had reached the forest. Some of the trees were still burning, and cast a lurid glare around; and although, from the place where he stood, his castle itself was hidden from his sight, he knew the struggle was not yet over. He could hear the fierce sounds of warfare, mixed with the crackling of wood in flames, which told him too truly that all his property was being destroyed. Large sparks flew up into the air like rockets, which, as they ascended, illuminated the dark.

The, count was very sad: 'My poor retainers,' thought he, 'have been massacred, and I am not able to strike a single blow.' As the old man stood on the rock, with his tall and majestic figure wrapped in the cloak, and his white hair waving in the breeze, he looked like some supernatural being, a spirit of the mountain risen from the earth. His arms were stretched towards the fortress, as if in the act of springing to the rescue. Conflicting emotions agitated his breast, when suddenly his countenance changed. All his fierceness vanished. A smile of deep gratitude overspread his face, and he sank on his knees and offered up a prayer of thanks for the preservation of the treasure, in comparison with which all the riches of the world were but as dust and ashes.

THE CONNECTICUT ELECTION AND THE FOREIGN VOTE.—Of the 1,767 Democratic votes given in Hartford, at the recent election, 1,100 were by naturalized citizens chiefly Irishmen, and of the 2,339 Democratic votes given in New Haven, more than 1,500 were of the same character.

MURDERER CONVICTED BY A HORSE.

Wm. Patterson was tried at Raleigh, Shelby county, Tennessee, for the murder of Thomas Merriweather, a young planter of Mississippi. The incidents developed upon the trial were of the most romantic nature, and the evidence, though circumstantial, made out a clearance of one of the most revolting murders "be found in the chronicles of guilt."

There was one point in the case, about which alone there could be said to be doubt, and this point was made by the evidence afforded, by the horse of Merriweather.

In order to understand this, we must state that by the law of Tennessee, the criminal court of Shelby has criminal jurisdiction of all crimes committed in the 5th, 13th and 14th civil districts of said county.

The circuit of Shelby county had criminal jurisdiction in the 12th and other civil districts of the county. The prisoner was indicted in the circuit cort at Raleigh, and the murder was alleged to have been committed in the 12th district. The dividing line between the 12th and 13th districts was the road leading from Memphis to Hernando.

If the crime was committed in the 13th civil district, the court at Raleigh had no jurisdiction, and the prisoner would have to be acquitted.

The deceased was found some forty or fifty steps from the Herando road. The witness stated that the body, as he thought, had been dragged there from the road; hence the doubt whether the murder took place in the 11th or 13th civil district.

At this critical point, a counsel betook them of certain marvelous and novel conduct of the noble horse which had been referred to, which had come to their knowledge in conversation with the witnesses.

The known instinct of animals has, from time immemorial, been deemed in the law as among the sources of videnee by which the dearest rights of life, liberty and property have been determind.

Testimony as to these acts was proposed to be submitted on behalf of the State, but was stoutly opposed by the prisoner's counsel, who knew its overwhelming force.

The learned judge over-ruled the objections and admitted the testimony. It had been proven in the course of the trial, that about eight o'clock on the Sunday following that on which the deceased and prisoner left Mr. Hammel's, a gentleman coming toward Memphis met the horse proven to have been Mr. Merriweather's on the road about two thousand yards from the scene of the murder, and south of the same, galloping at full speed in the direction of Hernando, and appearing to be exceedingly frightened. With difficulty the gentleman intercepted and caught him.

The gentleman finding the animal almost uncontrollable from fright, had some difficulty in retaining the rein until a young man came forward and claimed him.

The young man who claimed the horse was recognized by the gentleman, at the trial, as the prisoner at the bar. He came forward, said the gentleman, claimed the horse, thanked him gravefully for catching him, mounted and rode hurriedly off in the direction of Hernando. The facts here submitted to the jury, in reference to the wonderful instincts, are these:

It will be remembered the noble animal in question was of extraordinary intelligence, and singularly attached to his master, whom he was in the habit of following about whenever he would come to be pasture or the farm yard where the hore was.

Some several months after the prisoner had been committed to jail under indictment, William Merriweather, accompanied by a number of gentlemen, witnesses in the case, came up from their homes in Mississippi to attend the trial.

William Merriweather was riding the horse of the deceased brother, which had by this time been recovered in the family. The journey lay along the Hernando road, and by the spot where the body had been found. About two hundred yards before the party reached the scene of the murder, the horse upon which Wm. Merriweather was mounted began to exhibit symptoms of alarm, and his intractable conduct much surprised his rider and the gentlemen who were with him.

There was no apparent cause of alarm, and the several other horses of the party betrayed none. His agitation increased as the party approached the fatal spot; and when they reached a point in the road opposite to it, the excitement of the horse rose to so furious a pitch that he became almost unmanageable.

The whole party now checked their horses, and for a moment regarded the strange conduct of the horse with much profound astonishment. His flesh quivered—his nostrils distended, and his eyes glancing into the wood where his noble master had met his horrible fate—he stood for a moment, snorting and neighing—a sublime picture of the wildest excitement.

One of the party suggested to Mr. Merriweather to give him the rein that, meanwhile, had been tightly drawn. This was done, and instantly the noble animal rushed into the wood, and down to the identified tree under which the body had been found, and commenced pawing at its root. After a moment he trotted out farther into the wood, and after making a semicircle in his course, returned to the same spot, and there stood neighing, trembling, and pawing, until he was forced away. Similar exhibitions were made by the horse a number of times afterwards in passing the spot.

At this startling development in the testimony, a thrill of feeling ran through the Court-room like an electric spark.

Thus far the proof had traced out the history of this mysterious murder with a certainty too fearful to be doubted, and had pointed to the pallid youth who sat in the prisoner's dock as the guilty agent thereof.

Justice tempered even with an unstrained mercy seemed impatient for the sacrifice, when the strong arm of the law interposed in its might and majesty to shield him. The venue unproven, or even in doubt, would have left to the tribunal of justice no other alternative than to bid him to go out again a free wanderer upon the earth, with the blood and guilt thick upon him. But the God, who "marketh the sparrow when he falls," in his inscrutable providence, had yet in reserve an eloquent witness against him, whose faithful heart was steel to the wiles of the corrupter, and whose testimony fell upon the astounded ears of the jury, as

"Confirmation strong
As proof of holy writ."

No blood had ever been seen on the road and no appearance of any struggle there. If the killing had been done in the road, the horse, whose rapid flight and wild fright must have been occasioned instantly by the death-struggle, would have known nothing of the tree in the wood. The scene was pictured before the minds of the jury—as if typed by the glorious art of Daguerre; the decoy into the wood—the robber's demand for gold—or blood—the death struggle at the tree—and the instincts,—were destined to vindicate, as if by a miracle, the unerring certainty of retributive justice; and thus the venue was proven—thus the doom of the prisoner was sealed, and thus

A pebble in the streamlet
Hath turned the course of many a river;
A dew drop on the baby plant
Hath warped the giant oak forever.

The verdict of the jury was, that the prisoner was guilty, and sentence of death was pronounced against him, which was afterwards commuted to imprisonment for life in the State Penitentiary.

In that gloomy catacomb of human hearts and hopes, where time is as eternity, with a sense of liberty lost William Peterson now expiates his dreadful crime.

CHICAGO, April 23.

THE KANSAS INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.—Messrs Howard and Sherman, of the Congressional committee to investigate the Kansas difficulty, reached Fort Leavenworth on the 14th inst. Mr. Oliver, of Mo., had not arrived.

WASHINGTON, April 22.

REPLY OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT IN REGARD TO THE EL DORADO AFFAIR.

The last steamer brought despatches addressed by the Spanish Minister of Foreign Relations to our Minister in Madrid, in reply to the demands made at different times by our Government for redress in the matter of the firing into and detention of the steamer El Dorado by the Spanish man-of-war Ferrolano. Spain decidedly but cautiously refuses to comply with the wishes of our Government, showing by a series of arguments that according to the law of nations the commander of the Ferrolano did nothing more than the peculiar circumstances at that time existing in the neighborhood of Havana justified.

FISH WITH FOUR LEGS.—QUEER FREAK OF NATURE.—We saw yesterday a queer creature for this part of the country, viz., a fish having four distinct and useful legs. Near Fort Defiance, New Mexico, there is a stream of water which comes down from a canon in the mountains, and just before meeting the Fort, suddenly sinks into the earth, and is lost to view. It does not communicate with any other stream on the surface. In this brook these legged creatures abound. The only mention of these fish was made by Captain Howard Stansfield some years ago, but those that we saw were the only specimen ever brought to this country. They were obtained by Dr. Langworthy, of this city who had them in his possession but a short time before Professor Agassiz became aware of it, and wrote to Dr. L., expressing his great desire of obtaining them. He says: "I can hardly tell you how very important the specimen would be to me, in the study of out natural history," &c. They were sent to him by express yesterday.

The four legs are placed precisely as the legs of the alligator, and very much resemble them in form. They are not useless excrescences, but real legs, and are used to advantage in procuring flies on the edge of the stream. They are a great curiosity on the whole, and will be a valuable acquisition to Prof. Agassiz. They were procured by Dr. Langworthy for the express purpose of sending to Agassiz, but he heard of it through Professor Baird, and immediately wrote to ascertain if there really was a specimen of these creatures in this city.—*Rochester Union.*

DEATH OF A DISTINGUISHED HINDOO.—Among the deaths in the Calcutta Friend of India, of February 2, we find the name of Aushootosh Dey—well known to our country men in the East Indies, and to American houses in the India trade, as "the great American banian," or banker. This eminent Hindoo was possessed of immense wealth, for the most part hereditary—though his property acquired in trade was vast, even for a leading banian. In social life he was of the old regime; and his great festival in 1852 in compliment to his American clients, as well as to celebrate the marriage of his grandson, was distinguished by a splendor and profusion sufficient to inspire his guests with the idea of almost fabulous riches. On that occasion the little bridegroom literally blazed in jewels to the value of not less than ten lacs of rupees, ($500,000.)—*New York Tribune.*

PROFESSIONAL ANECDOTE.—In a neighboring city a young member of the Bar thought he would adopt a motto for himself; and, after much reflection, wrote in large letters and pasted up against the wall the following: "Suum cuique," which may be translated, "Let every one have his own." A country client coming in expressed himself much gratified with the maxim, but added, "You don't spell it right." "Indeed; then how ought it to be spelt?" The latter replied "Sue 'em quick."

WESTERN ADDRESS.

ADDRESS

TO THE PEOPLE OF N. CAROLINA,

On the subject of Constitutional Reform.

A meeting, composed principally of Western members of the Legislature, without distinction of party, was held in the Capitol, on the evening of the 1st of January, 1851, to consider what measures were necessary to be adopted to secure to the *people* of N. Carolina the right to amend their State Constitution, so as fully to answer the great ends for which it was originally established; and to maintain that equality of rights which lies at the foundation of all free and popular governments.

It is a remarkable feature in the history of our State, that the free people of the State never have had a voice in the formation of that instrument, by which alone their lives, their fortunes, and their personal liberty is protected. The first Constitution was formed at Halifax, 18th December, 1776, immediately after we had thrown off the British yoke, when our ancestors were not fully alive to the interests of the people but still retained a reverence for British usages, where property was always more respected, and had more political weight than the rights of the people. The delegates to the Convention, in consequence of that natural deference to their ancient customs, were elected only by free-holders and households; and that Convention made the Constitution so formed the organic law of the State. The people, who formed neither of these classes and who constituted a much larger mass of the population of the State, had no voice in the election of delegates; and the Constitution was not submitted to them for their approval or rejection.

At the time this Constitution was formed, all the counties in the State, except eight, lay east of Raleigh, which has been regarded as the dividing line between the Eastern and Western portions of the State.—By its provisions each county, without regard to its wealth or population, was entitled to send one Senator and two members of the House of Commons; and the towns of Wilmington, Newbern and Halifax, to which were added, in 1788, Fayetteville, in the east, and Hillsboro' and Salisbury in the west—each, one member of the House of Commons. Under this Constitution we lived, suffering grievances, the memory of which has not yet left us, constantly struggling to amend it, until 1835, when the Legislature, in the plenitude of its mercy, granted to the people of the State the privilege to say whether they should amend the Constitution in some few points. The delegates to that Convention were required to be sworn not to transcend the limits prescribed to them by the Legislature, itself but the servant of the people.

The result of their labors was the Constitution under which we now live. By it, the number of members in the Senate is fixed at fifty; and in the House of Commons at one hundred and twenty. Each county is entitled to elect one member at least; and the remainder are elected by the counties in proportion to their federal population—that is, to all whites are added three out of five slaves, and the sum total constitutes the federal population. In the Senate, the counties elect Senators in proportion to the taxes paid into the public treasury, without regard to the sources whence those taxes originated—whether from the permanent wealth of the country, or from those taxes imposed to restrain the vices of the community.

The clause prohibiting any one from voting for Senator unless he was the owner in fee of fifty acres of land, contained in the Constitution of 1776, was still retained. To this clause in our Constitution public attention has been directed for the last two years; and its anti-republican and aristocratic character severely denounced as a remnant of the feudal times, when the people were mere serfs or servants of the landlords.

In consequence of this denunciation of one particular feature of our Constitution, public attention has been directed to its other provisions. Our people, in 1835, when called upon to decide upon the amendments submitted to them, only had to decide between the old and new; and they naturally preferred the latter, as it gave, in one branch, more political weight to the mass of the people of the State. It was the first instance when they were regarded at all by their own State Constitution. Being naturally lovers of peace and order, and always obedient to the laws of the land, they raised no clamors against them, until they were called upon to look into their Charter of Liberty, and see that it contained one feature wholly repugnant to republican equality. In this opinion we all concur. It is right and proper that the people who are governed should elect those who govern them; and directly at war with that sacred principle contained in the Declaration of Independence, "that all men are free and equal," to exclude from this valued privilege any freeman because of his not being a landholder.

Equally opposed to this principle is the rule by which political power is measured by the basis of representation in the Senate. To place it in its most favorable light, the Senate represents property, and not persons—money, not men—matter, not mind. But its odiousness does not stop here. You are all familiar with the subjects of taxation, and these taxes are represented—not you, the people. All white males between the ages of 21 and 45 are subject to a poll tax; and all slaves, male and female, between the ages of 12 and 50, are subject to the like tax. So that three-fifths of the negroes are represented in the House of Commons, and all the negroes, between the ages above designated, are represented in the Senate; but your wives and children have no political rights. Pedlars, billiard tables, bowling alleys, circus riders, playing cards, retailers of spirituous liquors, brokers, merchants, watches, and carriages, are all taxed. They have their Senators in the State Legislature. But your wives and your daughters; your old men who have served their country; young men who are rising up to be its hope and its stay; and your poor men upon whom misfortune has laid its heavy hand, have no one there to plead their cause and protect their rights. Is this Liberty?—Is this Freedom?—Is this Republican equality?

Your Bill of Rights says, "That all political power is vested in and derived from the *people only.*" Is power in the Senate of North Carolina derived from "*the people only!*" Let it not be said taxation and representation go hand in hand. That principle has no application here. It is true that our ancestors fought the battles of the Revolution upon the principle that they were not to be taxed by a body in which they were not represented. But who is represented? Certainly the people—those who paid the taxes—not the taxes themselves. Our ancestors never claimed that their property should be represented—They claimed, and justly too, that they should be represented. In the Senate, *property* is represented, and not the *people;* and the same principle which prompted our ancestors to that glorious contest, and sustained them in it, which terminated in the achievement of our liberties, should prompt us to war against this most odious anti-republican remnant of feudal aristocracy, by which the people are taxed by a body in which they are not represented.

Apply the principle, and see its injustice. Ten men in any one county own as much property and pay as much public tax as five hundred men in another county.—They all own the same species of propetty. Each of the five hundred is equally interested in the preservation of his little mite as either of the ten. Each one has, perhaps, made it by the labor of his hands, by the sweat of his brow. It is all he has, by means of which to maintain and provide for his family. It is the dependence of his children for education—for sustenance.—And yet, by the present system, the ten are equal to the five hundred. Is this justice? Is this liberty? Let war break out—let civil commotions arise,—whose lives are exposed for the protection of this property? Who are sent forth to fight the battles of your country? The five hundred go forth to fight the battles of your country—to vindicate its honor—to maintain its glory, leaving their wives and little ones to struggle on in poverty and indigence; while the ten stay at home, enjoy their wealth, and boast of the honor and glory of their country, the bravery, the freedom, and equality of its citizens. Save us from such freedom—save us from such equality! It is no freedom—it is no equality. It is downright tyranny in its most odious form. The few grinding into the dust the many, under the iron heel of power—power under the pretence of being derived from "the people only."

Under the operation of this principle, there are some startling facts. According to the census of 1840, and the apportionment of Senators made under the provisions of the Constitution by the Legislature of 1842, seventeen western Senators represent a majority of the white inhabitants of North Carolina. At the apportionment which will be made in 1852, a still greater discrepancy will be found to exist. The improvements which have heretofore been made, and still in progress in North Carolina, tend to a great increase of the value of property and of the subjects of taxation in Eastern Carolina. The Wilmington Railroad, to which the State has contributed so much, has added greatly to the value of property of every description near it, and the amount of taxes is proportionably increased. The Raleigh and Gaston Road; the Cape Fear improvements; the appropriations to Neuse river; to Tar river; to the Weldon Railroad; all have the same tendency. And the immense amount of money, therefore, expended heretofore in North Carolina, will have the effect directly, under the present Constitution, for the next twenty years, to cause us in the West, where we have a *majority* of the free white people of the State, to have in the Senate only THIRTEEN MEMBERS; while the *minority* of the white people will have THIRTY-SEVEN MEMBERS!

We do not desire to be understood as opposing in the least a proper system of Internal Improvements; nor as making any complaints against what has heretofore been done by our Legislature. Nor are we to be regarded as taking ground against the proper protection of property. We should be pained to see the day come in North Carolina when a system of agrarianism would be pre-eminent; when our own people would be less observant of law; less regardful of right. The true theory of Free Government is the proper protection of its *citizens* in the enjoyment of life, liberty and property. The right of property is a right attached to the person of a citizen, and he is to be protected in its enjoyment. Taxes are uniform; and he who possesses a little, is as deeply interested in its enjoyment as one possessing a greater share; and equally—nay, more opposed to the imposition of high taxes.

Property has no right independent of persons. You can give it no rights, nor privileges, nor immunities which effect it *alone.* It is matter and cannot feel, nor enjoy rights, but, in consequence of its possession, you may give its owner political power and privileges. If, then, you protect citizens in the *enjoyment* of property, is not the possessor of hundreds equally entitled to protection as the owner of thousands? Is his enjoyment the less? Do you measure enjoyment by the quantity enjoyed? Suppose you take from the rich man his thousands—it is his *all.* If you take from the poor his hundreds *it is his all too.* Which will cling to his all with the more pertinacity? Which will surround it with more guards; use it more sparingly; and more carefully provide that it shall not be consumed by profuse and lavish expenditures of Government? It is notorious that the poor complain most of high taxes, and it is natural they should; it is harder for them to pay them. It diminishes the aggregate of each more, although the amount is less; and every poor man hopes and expects to improve his condition and, one day become rich. Hence