



The Tarborough Press,

BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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Letters addressed to the Editor must be post paid or they may not be attended to.

VARIETY.



From the Charleston Courier.

SOLILOQUY.

The times are tight, the times are tight,
Bad government made them so;
The times are tight, ay, worse than tight,
What shall we traders do?
Our hats are worn, our coats are torn,
And out our elbows run;
Of skirts bereft, our seats are left
Uncovered to the sun.
Our parts of blue have lost their hue,
And grown as slick as tar;
Our shirts have fled both tail and head,
And collars now we wear.
Old woollen socks that hide our heels,
The rents we grieve to see;
O! cursed sight, these times are tight,
They're tight beyond degree.
O! blessed boots, that from the roots
Did once protect our toes,
Now out they creep, to take a peep,
And off our toe-nail goes.
We dance awhile, and then we smile
Till memory brings to mind
The day that's passed, when boots & us
Were of a better kind.

Unless things mend there'll be an end
To all things here below;
A long black shirt, to hide the dirt,
Will soon be all the go.
May looseness come like peal of drum,
May perfect looseness reign;
And things relax like melted wax,
And ease the trader's pain.
A BROKEN TRADER.

From the Raleigh Register.

A FAIR PROPOSITION.

The Baptist State Convention of N. Carolina has for several years greatly felt the need of an active agent to be in the field all the time, and its interests have greatly suffered for the want of such an agent. I have once been appointed, and again been strongly solicited to become its agent; but circumstances, over which I had no control, forbid my accepting it.

Now I will propose to the Baptist Denomination in this State and its friends, that if they will contribute a sum of money sufficient to pay for the new Baptist Church in this City, and to redeem me from my just and honest debts, that I will regard myself as belonging to the Denomination, and hereby pledge myself to serve its interests in whatever way the Convention may direct, all the days of my life, without further compensation.

I am influenced to this proposition from two considerations.

First, from a sincere desire to save the church and to pay every man what I justly owe them.

Secondly, I feel deeply for the credit of the denomination in this State, and am willing, yea, anxious to do all that I can to promote its prosperity. My coming to Raleigh in 1839, and building this Church, was the principal cause of my losing all my property, and now I am willing, if I can, to sell myself to save it for the denomination. But the inquiry may be, what obligation is there on the denomination and its friends to do this? And what advantage would it gain if they were to do it?

I do not propose this plan on the ground of obligation, nor can I foretell what advantage would be gained by it. We are however told in the scripture, that the stronger should help to bear the burdens of the weaker; and that we should not look every man on his own wealth, but also on the wealth of others. The denomination would hardly stop to inquire about obligation or calculate about advantage, if they had sent me as a Missionary to Africa or to Burmah, and on my voyage across the ocean, I had been shipwrecked, and barely escaping with life, had been cast upon some inhospitable shore, with every thing I had on board buried in the great deep, except

my wife and five little helpless children, who now reduced to the extremest poverty, knew not what to do to keep from starvation. And to add to the wretchedness of our condition, the authorities of the country should send an officer to take me by violence, and carry me to a distant place, far separated from my suffering wife and children, and cast me into prison.

By chance an opportunity is offered to send a letter back to tell the sad story of our misfortunes and sorrows, and it is publicly read in all our churches. What a feeling of deep sympathy would be excited in every breast? With what fervour would your hearts be lifted up to God in prayer for us! and your contributions would no doubt flow in abundantly. And should the sum demanded for my delinquent betwixt thousand dollars, the question with you would not be, what obligation are we under to contribute our funds to redeem him from imprisonment? Or what advantage would it be if we were to do it? But what is that sum to all our Denomination?—Come, my brethren, methinks you would all exclaim at once, let us send an ambassador, and a vessel after him and his family forthwith, for he is our brother and was on our mission.

Now I did not it is true set out on such a grand object as a Missionary to either Africa or Burmah, yet I was engaged in endeavoring to sustain those who went there to preach the Gospel to the Heathen, and also to promote the interests of our Denomination in the State. For twelve years I toiled in trying to sustain the benevolent operations of the Convention, in every department where my brethren saw proper to appoint me, only receiving for my compensation less than an average of fifty dollars per annum, and that small sum was given by the different Churches, I served as pastor; whilst I was myself contributing, besides my time and travelling expenses, more funds to benevolent objects than I received from the Churches. I speak this without vanity or boasting, but as the truth and God knows it. I was called from my engagements at Rocky Mount, to endeavor to build up an interest for the Redeemer in the Baptist Church here. To do this, a new house of worship became indispensably necessary. I undertook it upon the advice, and with the cooperation of many of our most judicious brethren. I had to sustain almost alone the whole burden & expense of its erection from beginning to end. About the time of its completion my misfortunes began. In the first place I had to pay twenty-five hundred dollars security money. I lost two thousand dollars by Morris Multicaulis trees. I lost six thousand dollars by the Wilmington Rail Road—I lost near a thousand dollars at Mobile, Ala.—I had three thousand dollars due in Florida which could not be collected—I lost near four thousand dollars by the sale of Property in Raleigh, over a thousand of which was lost on the adjoining lot to the Church, which was improved with a view that all the profits should be appropriated to the Church. In addition to all this, were the advance payments for the Church that could not be refunded.

Having conveyed all my resources to proper assignees for the benefit of my creditors, I went to Wilmington to do the best I could for the Church, and to engage in the Commission business, in hope of recouping my resources, to enable me to satisfy any demands that might remain unpaid. Although I was prostrated by adversity so that I had not a dollar of my own to bear my expenses in going there, yet a kind providence and kind friends encouraged me. As Pastor of the Church I had the pleasure of baptizing over a hundred happy converts, more than doubling the Church in one year. As Commission Merchant I had considerable business to transact, and flattered myself that it would not be long, before I would be able to meet all just demands against me, so that I might devote myself exclusively to the great work of preaching the Gospel of Christ to my dying fellow men. How sadly disappointed were my expectations, for about a month ago, I was surprised with an arrest by the Sheriff of New Hanover on a writ called a *Ca. Sa.* issued upon an old claim due to a citizen of Raleigh, from whom I had previously received a promise, that the claim should stand in a judgment till I could make it convenient to pay it off. I felt this to be an ungenerous, and oppressive measure, and considered it my duty to convey to an assignee, all of my little resources, for the benefit of those generous friends and citizens in Wilmington, who had aided me in making this little; that they might first be paid what they had loaned me, and sold to me; and the balance to be paid for as it would go on such old claims as I preferred, and where security money had been paid for me. I had to give bond with good security, for the surrender of my body in open Court, in the Court House in Raleigh. To relieve my securities, I surrendered myself when the *Ca. Sa.* was called up on Friday last, and was forthwith committed by the Judge

to the custody of the Sheriff to be imprisoned. I have thus been torn, by this cruel and barbarous feature of our laws, from pursuing a profitable business, engaged in for the benefit of my creditors, which is now closed and suspended. I have been torn from the holy functions of a Pastor for God's people, who are now as sheep without a Shepherd. I have been torn by this unfeeling and oppressive act of human laws, from all the endearments of home, wife and children; who are by it bereft of their only earthly dependence for support, and thrown entirely upon the kindness of Christian charity for bread, and separated from them more than a hundred miles, to be kept in confinement for at least 20 days. To be able to get released at that time, I must do what my very soul revolts at, that is, to swear that I am not worth ten dollars. This indeed would be nothing but the naked truth; but it is so very degrading and oppressive, that after a man has surrendered every cent of his property, and himself besides that he cannot be permitted to go and labor for the support of his family, till he shall shock the whole sensibilities of his conscientious scruples, by taking this shameful and abominable oath. No honorable man can think of it without being shocked. It is at variance with all the Laws of God, and ought to be abolished from the laws of man. For I hold it, that if a man is mean enough to defraud his creditors by withholding money when he has it, or concealing property from the common action of the law, he is mean enough to swear to a lie. Were there no other persons to be affected by it but myself, I would lay in prison till the day of my death, before I would so degrade myself before my fellow-men as to swear it; when it is apparent to every body who will examine, that I have given up every thing that the law can claim in the shape of property, without even reserving one bed, one wheel and cards, one loom, working tools and arms for muster, one bible and testament, one hymn book, and one prayer book.

Thus am I again thrown upon the world in a penniless condition, and it may be possible, that what little credit I had gained, by my persevering efforts to aid me in my laudable exertions to get out of debt, will by this entire prostration the second time, be completely destroyed. Look at what I have tried to do, my brethren, in support of the Convention, in building up and sustaining Wake Forest College, in the erection of the Church in this City, where I am not even allowed to go and worship with God's dear people; and then look at my case now. Will you suffer the talents and qualifications which God has given for usefulness to be shut up and rust away, whilst the cause of our denomination is bleeding at every pore throughout the State; when it would not cost more than twenty-five cents to each member of our Church, to loose these bonds and let the captive go free, and to secure a house at the Capital of the State for our denomination to worship in. No, I will not believe them arise in your strength, and accede to it; my proposition and God will bless it. When a Convention was held in Baltimore, in May, 1840, for political purposes, one of the Marshals of the day was killed whilst saving the body. So great was sympathy for his widow and children, that the sum of near six thousand dollars was immediately raised by subscription, and presented as a donation from the young men who composed the Convention.—Cannot we will not our denomination spread over the whole State, owning thousands, yea, millions upon millions of dollars, out of regard to its own character, from sympathy to one who has fallen in their service, and from a desire to secure for life an active agent who will put forth all his energies to promote their interests? I say will they not for all these considerations come forward as one man to redeem one of their brethren from imprisonment and from a condition worse than slavery itself?

How shall it be done? Let every Minister or deacon read this to all our Churches and congregations, and then take up a collection and subscription, to be paid in one month, and forward the amount thus raised to brother Daniel DuPre, of Raleigh, who is the Trustee for the Church. If this be done promptly as it may be done, there can be no doubt but the object will be attained.—And should there be any overplus let it go into the treasury of the Convention. The brethren need not fear of giving too much on this plan. Therefore let every one give what the spirit of Divine love prompts his heart to give and the work will be done. Should this last appeal be disregarded, the Church will no doubt be lost, the whole denomination be reproached, and the Lord only knows what will become of me and my poor family.

But the cry of *hard times* is heard all over our land. So might the woman have said, when Elijah the prophet told her to make him a cake first, when there was only enough she thought, to make a little cake for herself and son that they might

eat and die. As God increased her barrel of meal and cruse of oil, to last through all the famine, because she gave the prophet bread, so God can increase your resources, through all the *hard times*, if you give to his servants and to his cause.

May I not brethren and friends, expect soon to hear from the length and breadth of our State—we will do it, we will do it. May God grant it, and all the praise and glory shall be ascribed to his Holy name.
Your imprisoned brother,

A. J. BATTLE.

Raleigh, April 10th, 1843.

TO THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION.

Since my appeal to you in behalf of the New Church in this City has been made, I have received such strong remonstrances from members of the Baptist Church in Wilmington, against releasing me from my engagement to them as Pastor; and also such earnest remonstrances from my relations and others against that part of my communication which proposes to *sell myself for life*, that I feel it to be my duty to withdraw that part of my proposition.

The appeal will now stand for the payment of the Church alone, and the overplus of funds, if any, to go into the Treasury of the Convention.

I wish it distinctly understood that no part of my first proposition was a begging affair for my own interest, independent of advantages to be gained by the Denomination. No; I am able to support my family by my labor, and prefer to work for it than have it given to me.

I feel grateful more than I can express, for the deep sympathy manifested by the community in general for me in this severe trial; and for that generous response to my appeal, which is daily coming in from every part of the State. May the Lord most graciously reward all for their kind feelings, and liberal contributions shall be the prayer of

A. J. BATTLE.

Raleigh, April 27, 1843.

From the Washington Republican.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Tarboro', April 25th, 1843.

Dear Sir:—I see the Whig Convention has brought forward Edward Stanley as their candidate for this Congressional District.—How far the selection was a matter of choice or necessity with them, admits of much doubt. But there certainly was labor and effort wasted in the Convention to *manufacture enthusiasm* on the occasion, and with less success than is rarely met with. No doubt the conscientiousness of his many political sins and tergiversations, weighed too heavy on their minds for such an attempt. If they had not the manliness and independence to express an honest opinion about Stanley's political course, or were so hardened as to feel not the blows he has given their rights, I assure you 'tis not so with the Whigs of this section. The Whig vote here is very small; but, small as it is, he cannot command it. They cannot approve of his Bankrupt votes, or his Tariff notions, and his equivocating two-sided votes on the Abolition question—his support of that incendiary, J. Q. Adams, is marked against him; and last, but not least, his quarrelsome bullying course in the public councils. These things have weight with the Whigs of this section, and they would have preferred another candidate—many of them will not support him; those that do, do it as a necessary adherence to their party. In this town, one half of the Whigs will not vote for him. They remember his high-handed proscription course in removing our Post Master, against the express instructions of our citizens, both Whigs and Democrats. An officer who was sustained in the community in which he lived by both parties, and no one then or since in this whole community, could be found to make the first charge of mismanagement against him. On the contrary, our citizens voluntarily tendered him their approbation and general acquittal from any misconduct. Yet Stanley, living 50 miles off, with no interest in the Post Office, assumed the disposition of it contrary to the wishes, interest and feelings of our whole people; this wanton outrage inflicted, too, by a man who occupied the place of their representative—so far from representing them took particular pains to misrepresent—and did it in such a way as to add insult to injury. Whether Stanley's course in this matter was prompted by any petty malice against the Post Master, or to subserve some selfish party purpose of his own, is not known—but it was one of the only offices he could reach to bestow on some greedy office-seeker—and he seemed determined to do it, whatever wrong it might inflict on this community. And all this was done against the *positive and written instructions* to him from the Whigs of this town. And if such is his treatment of his own friends, what assurance has his friends any where

else, that when it serves his selfish views they may not be treated with the same disrespect and disregard to their interest and rights? He will find when our votes are counted, that the Edgecombe Whigs are not so craven and low spirited as to be trampled on with impunity—then to be called on to worship the hand that smites them.
Yours,

From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

Gubernatorial Rencontre—The Southern mail of Saturday brought a report of a rencontre between Gov. McDowell of Virginia, and Gov. Francis Thomas, of Maryland, at Staunton, Va. There is a family difficulty between these persons, growing out of the separation of Gov. Thomas from his wife who is the daughter of Gov. McDowell.—The rumour of the rencontre at Staunton is variously repeated. The Richmond Star furnishes the following account:

—We have the particulars from a correspondent of a fight that occurred at Staunton on Tuesday last, between Gov. McDowell and Governor Thomas, of Maryland. Gov. Thomas reached that place in the Valley stage, about 11 o'clock, and Gov. McDowell in the Charlottesville stage, about an hour afterwards. They put up at the same hotel and met there, but did not speak—both designing to take the Lexington stage.—When the stage came up, Gov. McD. handed his lady into the stage, and as he was also in the act of entering, he observed Thomas at his side & demanded where he was going, to which he replied—"in the stage." This he was assured he should not do, and from words they proceeded to blows, Governor McDowell employing his umbrella with marked effect upon his adversary. The bystanders then interfered and the battle was stopped—Gov. Thomas declaring he had not received fair play. By the persuasion of friends, Gov. McDowell with his lady took a private conveyance to Lexington, Gov. T. continuing in the stage. It was anticipated that another "scene" would occur at Lexington, from which place news was anxiously expected. The affair has caused great talk and excitement at Staunton.

Alabama—This State sets a good example in paying her interest, if not in regulating her own currency. The Merchants' Bank on Saturday paid over to the Phoenix Bank \$106,000, being the amount of interest payable at the Phoenix on the first of May. As for the interest due in London on the first of July, part of it was sent forward in March, and the balance goes by the steamer from Boston to day.—*ib.*

Signs and wonders.—The story of a second Comet being seen at Lagaira, about 45 deg. E. S. E. of the termination of the tail of the other, and much brighter, is believed to be without foundation. Caracac papers to the 1st inst. contain a long article relative to the Comet recently observed here, but make no mention of any other. Caracac is seven miles from Lagaira.

The new Comet seen by a watchman the other night at Philadelphia, was only a star, or stars. It is not uncommon for people to see stars, and sometimes they are greatly multiplied and enlarged.

The extraordinary fire-ball seen for three quarters of an hour in the neighborhood of Mobile, was a lantern tied to a boy's kite.

The "uneearthly glare," exceeding the glow of a burning prairie, which was seen by passengers going through Long Island Sound, on the night previous to the 23rd of April, was occasioned by a fire in the woods, a few miles below Deer Park, L. Island.

And we have no doubt that nine-tenths of the wonders which are chronicled in the newspapers of the present day, if the truth could be known concerning them, would prove to be of the same order. So many people are on the gaze for wonderful phenomena, that a crow cannot fly over without creating a panic.

We learn from the "Cheraw (S. C.) Gazette" of the 26th inst. that an highly estimable citizen of that place, Mr. W. J. Bailey, was suddenly thrown from his sulky by the running away of an unmanageable horse, and being dashed forcibly against a tree was instantly killed. The deceased was a native of Anson County, in this State; and has left a wife and child to mourn his premature loss.—*Ral. Reg.*

Mr. W. A. Smith, believed to be from Norfolk, Virginia, was lately found dead on the river bank near Augusta, Georgia—under what circumstances the paper before us does not state. He was decently interred, and his trunk and other property placed in responsible hands. This notice is published for the benefit of his friends.—*ib.*

They had a thunder gust at May-bridge, Vermont, on the 28th of March, which was immediately succeeded by a fall of snow, five inches in depth.