

Communications.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

Mr. Howard: I have observed in the two last numbers of the Raleigh Constitutionalist, that the knowing Editor of that paper seems to have taken his text upon your notions of Internal Improvements and Rail Roads, &c. and as my opinions and yours seem to agree about those subjects, I may add my notions also. Though he goes on at considerable length condemning and criticising your remarks, and says he is puzzled to divine by what mode of reasoning, or theory of logic, you make appropriations for internal improvements operate directly or indirectly upon the pockets of the people; yet he has philosophically pointed out or intimated a plan by which it may be done without the aid of the people, which is this, that the Legislature has the right and they are the proper persons to judge of those things, and that they can appropriate the surplus funds of the State to objects of this sort, and in this way it will cost no individual any thing. A fine plan indeed! I would now like to know of the gentleman how this surplus fund got into the State treasury, and whether or not it did not once belong or was in the hands of the public, and if it did not come indirectly from their pockets? I would also like to know if the funds of the State were expended on objects of internal improvement, of which there is little or no doubt it will be if ever commenced, if the treasury of the State would not have to be replenished by the citizens of the State? I should say it most certainly would. And I would ask, would it not be much more prudent for the funds of the State to be applied to the payment of the annual and necessary expenses of the State, of which we all know there are such expenses and they must be paid? If this surplus money is squandered foolishly or extravagantly, a reimbursement must be made from the pockets of the people, in order to defray those annual and necessary expenses of the State government; and I conceive that the money in the public treasury belongs indirectly to the people as well as to the State, although it is styled the funds of the State. And as this young Solomon said by his friend Howard, I would be glad to know where he procured those splendid ideas of rail road making, &c. to get along so well with it without its costing the people any thing? This idea cannot be original with himself, he must have borrowed it from some sage of former days, who understood rail roads both in theory and practice; and from what Mr. Ramsay says about the matter, I should almost conclude it might be done without money and without price. He talks beautifully about it, and it really sounds very pleasing to the ear of any body to hear his remarks read on the subject—he says a great deal in favor of rail roads, and it all looks very well on paper, and he says he believes there is no part of the State but what would be more or less benefited; I am like him in part, for whilst the smaller portion of the State might possibly be a little benefitted, the larger portion of it would be so much less benefitted as to be an evident injury to it—or, in other words, a cent's benefit and a pound's injury.

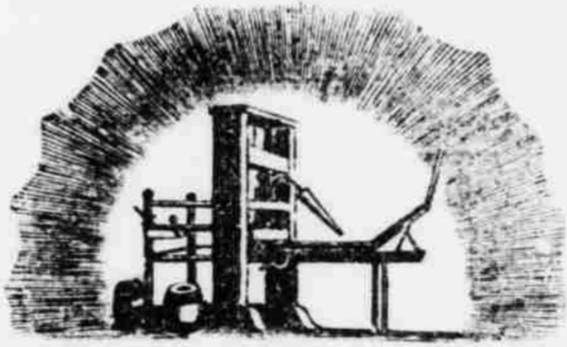
But the learned Editor says all these handsome things about rail roads, without bringing any kind of evidence to support him in it, with the exception of De Witt Clinton's project of connecting Lake Erie with the Hudson river, which he says was considered by the New York people as quixotic in the extreme, and which they rejected as being pregnant with the most disastrous consequences—and so far the result has shown that the people acted right in opposing it, for notwithstanding the great number of years since the State of New York became pregnant with this project by its father De Witt Clinton, it has never yet been able to bring forth even enough to pay the fees of the midwife, and the attendants on her whilst in her confinement. And I fear, friend Ramsay, if you should get this State pregnant with the project of a system of internal improvement, she will

be attended with like consequences—be always in labor and never bring forth.

Now, Sir, I do not pretend to be at all knowing on these subjects, but I want the people of the State to dispose of their money in their own way; and let those who want rail roads and canals make them and have the benefit resulting from them; and those that do not wish them, let them go along the old way, viz: in the sand, up and down hill, through mud and mire, in rivers, creeks and what not.

Although you say the people are not always judges of their own interest, and ask who knows better about those things than the members of the Legislature, a person might judge from your remarks that they are quite a distinguished and a profound class of citizens; but unfortunately for the State and the people, I happen to be acquainted with a number of them myself, and if I wished a question which involved the least mystery or difficulty settled, or to have it judged of correctly, I do assure you I should not call upon them—I would as soon go to a muster ground, or a horse race, and call out the same number of men there to decide a question of character for me, as to leave it to the decision of the Legislature. I am by your mode of reasoning in this respect, like yourself by your friend Howard—to say the least of it, it is childish. And from your mode of reasoning and ascertaining facts, I should think and recommend at least, that from your profound knowledge, research, and acuteness of perception, heaving and swelling, that you be appointed by the next Legislature, judge and commander in chief over all the canals, rail roads, and in fact over the whole of the internal affairs of the State of North Carolina.

Nothing more for your friend Ramsay.
EDGECOMBE.



TARBOROUGH:

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1833.

CANDIDATES.

Election on Thursday, 25th July next.

For Congress.

THOMAS H. HALL.

General Assembly—Senate.

GRAY LITTLE.

HARDY FLOWERS.

House of Commons.

JOHN W. POTTS.

MOSES BAKER.

TURNER BYNUM.

Clerk Superior Court.

JAMES W. CLARK.

Clerk County Court.

MICHAEL HEARN.

JOSEPH BELL.

JAMES BARNES.

*[P]*We would inform our patrons that we have purchased the materials of the Greenville Patriot and added them to our establishment—and that we are now enabled, having also increased our force in the mechanical department, to execute all orders for printing in a more expeditious manner than heretofore.

Fatal Affray.—We learn that on yesterday week, at a muster in this county, an affray occurred which unhappily terminated in the infliction of several wounds with knives on Christopher Harrell, Jr. of which he died the second day thereafter. The jury of inquest returned a verdict, that the deceased came to his death by wounds inflicted by William Gray Little and Cullen Little. The parties all have families—the deceased has left a wife and five small children. The persons implicated have as yet eluded pursuit.

A correspondent has furnished us with the following remarks, relative to the above truly lamentable occurrence.

Mr. Howard: So many reports have got abroad in regard to the recent death of Christopher Harrell, jun. it may not be amiss perhaps to caution the public against believing every thing they hear. The real facts in regard to the unfortunate affair will probably be developed in a short time, and the public are respect-

fully asked to suspend their opinion on the subject until they can be fully and fairly laid before them.

Certain friends of those unfortunate men, alleged to be the perpetrators, have been accused of participation to a criminal extent in the flight of the perpetrators; every word of which is no doubt false, and has no other ground to rest upon than *malicious presumption*.

The writer of this is in no wise connected with either party, and it is written without any knowledge on the part of the friends of the accused—he can therefore have no wish to forestall public opinion, but only wishes to have the public judge from *facts*, not from *hear-say*.

FAIR PLAY.

Laying the Corner Stone of the State Capitol.—We learn from the Raleigh papers that this imposing ceremony took place on the 4th inst. It was estimated that 3000 ladies and gentlemen were in attendance. The Rev. William Hooper offered up a prayer to the throne of grace—and Dr. Simmons J. Baker, Grand Master, addressed the company. A circle was formed around the corner stone by the Masonic order, and the usual rites upon such occasions were performed. There were several very neat and appropriate addresses delivered upon the occasion—one by Judge Seawell on the part of the Commissioners of the building, and one by Gov. Swan on the part of the State. The Register says:—

The following articles were enveloped in one package, covered with wax, and placed in a leaden box, which was deposited in the Corner Stone, viz: A printed Copy of the Journal of the proceedings of the Provincial Congress of North Carolina, held at Halifax on the 4th April, 1776. A printed Copy of the Declaration of Independence by the Citizens of Mecklenburg County on the 20th May, 1775, with accompanying Documents and the proceedings of the Cumberland Association. The Declaration of Independence of the United States with fac simile signatures. A pamphlet containing the Constitution of the United States and of the State of North Carolina, and the Rules of Order of the Senate and House of Commons of N. C. A neat Copy of the Holy Bible. Also, a variety of Coin, and one copy of each Newspaper printed in the State.—There was likewise deposited a Silver Plate, bearing an appropriate inscription—one side in English—the reverse in Latin. On this Plate, were engraved the names of the Commissioners of the building, the Officers of State, the Speakers of the two Legislative branches, &c. &c.

Internal Improvement Convention.—We copy from the Raleigh Register the subjoined account of the proceedings of the Convention which assembled at Raleigh on the 4th inst. It will be seen that there were 118 delegates in attendance, from 20 counties, and that there was but one delegate present from that part of the State west of Orange and Chatham. The Editor of the Fayetteville Observer states that several propositions for Rail Roads were submitted to the Convention, of which he recollects the following: a rail road from Raleigh to Waynesborough—from Weldon to Warrenton and thence to Louisburg—from Weldon to Oxford—from Halifax to Fayetteville—from Fayetteville to the Yauckin, another from some point on the Roanoke westwardly, and to be connected by lateral roads from each to Raleigh—from Raleigh to Newbern—from Raleigh to Wilmington—from Fayetteville to Wilkesborough—from Raleigh to Fayetteville. A goodly number truly! and sufficient, we should judge, to absorb the "surplus funds" of the State at least during the natural lives of the present generation, if they can be persuaded to suffer them thus to be appropriated.

The Convention was organized at the Government House, on the afternoon of the 4th, by the appointment of His Excellency, *David L. Swain*, as President, and of Gen. *S. F. Patterson*, of Wilkes, and *Charles Manly*, Esq. of this City, as Secretaries. On taking the Chair, the President made an appropriate Address:—The Counties having been called over alphabetically, the following Delegates, 118 in number, appeared and took their seats, viz:

From Beaufort County—Z. W. Barrow.
Brunswick—F. J. Hill, Francis N. Waddell, J. Waddell, H. Y. Waddell.

Bladen—John Owen.

Craven—Wm. Gaston, J. H. Bryan, John F. Burgwin, Wright C. Stanly.

Chatham—Jona. Haralson, Abraham G. Kean, C. J. Williams, William H. Harden, P. Le Messurier, Charles Luterloh, H. S. Clark, Thomas Prince.

Cumberland—Robert Strange, John Huske, L. D. Henry, John H. Hall, E. J. Hale, E. Arnold, E. W. Wilkins, James Seawell, W. Waddill, jun. Thomas L. Hybart.

Duplin—William Wright.

Franklin—James Farrier, Wood T. Johnson, Nathaniel R. Tunstall.

Granville—William M. Sneed, Spencer O'Brien, Thomas W. Norman, Thomas B. Littlejohn, Memucan Hunt.

Halifax—Joseph J. Daniel, Edmund Freeman.

Johnston—J. H. Smith, Bythan Bryan, Josiah O. Watson, Daniel Boon, Christopher Christophers, Reuben T. Sanders, John C. Smith, Jas. L. Leach, James Frilick.

Lenoir—Isaac Croom, Hardy B. Croom, Nathan B. Whitfield and George Whitfield.

New Hanover—William B. Meares, John D. Jones, Joseph A. Hill, Alexander MacRae, Wm. J. Love, Thomas Hill, Patrick Usher, George H. McMillan.

Nash—Henry Blount, Stephen S. Sorsby, Geo. Boddie, jun.

Orange—Hugh Waddell, Wm. J. Bingham, Professor Philips, Walter Norwood, Alex'r Henderson, James H. Norwood, Frederick Nash, Wm. A. Graham, John Scott, Samuel Childs, Cadwallader Jones, Wm. F. Strudwick, James Mebane.

Sampson—Thomas J. Faison, H. C. Holmes, Wm. Kirby, Ollen Mobley, Wm. Faison.

Wilkes—Samuel F. Patterson.

Wake—David L. Swain, Geo. E. Badger, Jas. Iredell, Wm. McPheeters, Wm. H. Haywood, jr. Wm. Boylan, Henry Seawell, Geo. W. Haywood, Charles Manly, A. J. Lawrence, J. C. Stedman, Thomas Cobbs, Weston R. Gales, James Grant, Cyrus Whitaker, Johnston Busbee, Alfred Jones, Henry A. Donaldson, H. Warren, T. Pullen, John Y. Young.

Warren—John C. Green, Thomas Bragg, Geo. Little, Joseph S. Jones, Geo. M. Allen, S. Southerland, J. Somerville.

Wayne—Arnold Borden, James B. Whitfield, John W. Sasser, H. M. Jeter, John Wright.

A Committee, composed of one member from each Delegation, was appointed, to whom were referred all matters of enquiry, with instructions to make a general report. This Committee made a detailed report on Friday afternoon, which elicited a most able, animated and protracted discussion. After being modified in several particulars, it was adopted by a vote of 55—37, on Saturday afternoon about 4 o'clock. Nearly the whole of the debate which occurred in the Convention, took place on a Resolution reported by the Committee, which affirms, that the true policy of the State requires that its funds should, in the first instance, be exclusively applied to providing the means of internal transportation, and in creating and improving markets, within her own limits. This Resolution was opposed by Messrs. Iredell, Badger, Sneed, O'Brien, Graham and Nash and advocated by Messrs. J. A. Hill, Strange, Gaston, J. H. Bryan, Haywood, Henry and Patterson.

The Report as adopted, embraces substantially, the following Resolutions:

1. That the condition of the State requires that a liberal system of Internal Improvement should be immediately organized and vigorously prosecuted.
2. That the Legislature ought to provide a fund, by loan or otherwise, to enable the State to contribute substantial assistance in the prosecution of works of Internal Improvement.
3. That true policy requires that said fund should be appropriated, in the first instance, to build up markets in our own State.
4. That it be recommended to the Legislature to provide by law, that the State shall subscribe two fifths of the Stock in any Company hereafter incorporated for the purposes of Internal Improvement, whenever the other three-fifths shall be paid, or secured to be paid, by individuals.
5. That the President shall appoint a committee to prepare an Address to the people of the State, on the subject of Internal improvement.
6. That the Proceedings of the Convention be laid before the Legislature at its next session.
7. That Committees of Correspondence be appointed in the several counties.
8. That it be earnestly recommended to the citizens of the several counties in this State, to elect three Delegates from each county, to hold a Convention in the City of Raleigh, on the 4th Monday of November next, to deliberate further upon the subject of Internal Improvements.