

Saml H. Smith, Jr
NORTH CAROLINA PORTFOLIO

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WILMINGTON, N. C. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1807.

[11TH YEAR.]

Treasurer's Message.

To the Honourable the General Assembly of the State of North-Carolina.

GENTLEMEN,
In making to you that Statement which is annually required of the Public Treasurer by Law, I have the honor herewith to submit the following Report, viz.

The receipts at the Public Treasury of N. Carolina, from the 1st day of November, 1805, to the 1st day of November, 1807, including Arrearages, the Public Taxes of every description, and the Cotton Gin Tax, amount to twenty eight thousand one hundred and seventy-nine Pounds twelve Shillings and six pence, (£28,179 12 6) which sum, being added to the balance remaining in the treasury on the first day of November, 1806, to wit, Forty one thousand five hundred and thirty eight pounds thirteen Shillings and six pence, as reported to the last General Assembly, makes an aggregate amount of sixty nine thousand seven hundred and eighteen Pounds six Shillings. (£69,781 6.) From this sum, total, disbursements have been made, within the period first above mentioned, (say from November, 1806, to November, 1807) to amount of twenty eight thousand one hundred and ten pounds nine shillings and six pence, (£28,110 9 6.) The vouchers for all which are delivered over to the Comptroller, and passed to the Treasurer's credit, and are by him held ready for the inspection of the Committee of Finance.

This expenditure, or these disbursements being taken from the aggregate amount above mentioned, a Balance of forty one thousand six hundred and seven pounds sixteen shillings and six pence, (£41,607 16 6) is left in the Public Treasury on the said first day of November, 1807, yet to be accounted for.

The most worn of the Bills forming this Balance, have and will be selected and held in readiness to be burnt in case the legislature shall so direct.

The receipts at the treasury for Lands entered and paid for, amount, from the first day of November, 1806, to the first day of November, 1807, to the sum of two thousand five hundred and fifteen Pounds and one penny (£2,515 0 1.) These receipts, however, are fully and completely covered by Certificate and other vouchers, and do therefore in no wise affect the Public Treasurer's general Account of the Taxes, &c. the Balance of which is as above stated.

Pursuant to the directions of the Legislature, I purchased since the last session, twelve dollars six cents of unredeemed six per cent stock, at the rate of 93 per cent. Seven dollars seventy six cents of unredeemed deferred six per cent stock, at the same rate; and seventeen dollars and forty cents of three per cent stock, at the rate of 57 per cent; which is all the stock of the funds of the United States which has been offered to me for sale in this state.

Warrants transferring to the books here two thousand three hundred dollars, of eight per cent stock of the funds of the United States, purchased with the remittance mentioned in the Public Treasurer's report to the last General Assembly have been received during the recess; as have likewise the warrants of transfer for the fifteen hundred other dollars of the like eight per cent stock, mentioned in the same report as being contracted for. These purchases were made at the rate of 105 per cent; and this stock, likewise, has been placed on the books of the Loan-Office, to the credit of North-Carolina.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Act of Assembly, entitled, "An Act to relieve certain of the inhabitants of Mecklenburg county, and other citizens of this State," the Treasurer of the University of North-Carolina has transferred to me as Public Treasurer, and in trust for the use of the State, one hundred and forty four dollars sixty one cents, six per cent stock; the unredeemed part of which is equal, at the price at which it was not long since purchased at Philadelphia, to the sum of fifty-one pounds eighteen shillings and ten pence North-Carolina currency; the amount of the claim which has been additionally reported to me by the said Treasurer, and which this stock was intended to cover.

It has not yet been in my power to effect a further purchase of stocks in any of the northern states, owing to the impracticability of obtaining in this state either Bank notes or bills from merchants or others, which are current or can be negotiated there. I have been able to collect and exchange for, with part of the monies received as interest and reimbursement of principal of the stocks belonging to this state, between two and three thousand dollars in Bank notes, and have now hope, as the season for purchasing produce in the ports of this state advances, of having it in my power, in the course of a few weeks, to exchange the remainder of those monies for notes at Fayetteville or Wilmington: As soon as this can be effected, measures shall, without further delay, be taken for investing the amount in stocks as heretofore.

For the further information of the Legislature, I hereto subjoin a Statement, shewing,

at one view, the amount of the different denominations of the Funds of the United States which are held by, and belong to the State of North-Carolina.

By a Resolution of the last Assembly it was made the duty of the Public Treasurer to cause the State House to be painted; but no direction was given as to the colours to be used in that work. On enquiry, it was found that a variety of opinion existed on this head, even among those who professed to be skillful in the business of painting: I did not consider myself competent to decide as to preference, and therefore thought it best to receive the proposals of those who offered to undertake; to procure the principal materials; and to defer the work until the pleasure of the Legislature, in regard to colour, &c. should be known. This was accordingly done: Proposals were received and filed; and the necessary quantity of Oil estimated at eight barrels, was purchased at the rate of one dollar per gallon, delivered near Salem, and was brought to and is now stored in this place, ready to be used as the General Assembly may direct, as soon as the proper season for painting shall commence.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

JOHN HAYWOOD, Public Treasurer.
Raleigh, 26th November, 1807.

Should the Legislature deem it expedient that measures be taken with the Stocks belonging to this State, or with any part of them, before the next Assembly, in consequence of the Act of Congress, supplementary to the Act, intitled "An Act making Provision for the redemption of the whole of the Public Debt of the United States," passed last Session, they will of course direct accordingly.

J. H.

A STATEMENT of the different species of STOCKS belonging to NORTH-CAROLINA, and standing to her Credit on the Books of the Loan-Office of the UNITED STATES for the said State

Amount of Six per Cent Stock	Amount of P. Cent Deferred Stock	Amount of Three per Cent Stock	Amount of P. Cent Deferred Stock
\$6,149 88	12,490 74	39,033 91	\$6,600

JOHN HAYWOOD, Public Treasurer.
26th November, 1807.

It will be remembered that the Old Six per Cent Stock is in part redeemed; that is to say, thirty-five dollars three cents (\$35 3) in each hundred dollars of the original Stock, have been paid up to the United States, towards the Redemption of the said stock.—The Six per Cent Deferred Stock is also in part redeemed, say fourteen dollars forty-two Cents, (\$14 42 in each hundred dollars of that original Stock, have likewise been paid up.

J. H.

Friday, November 27.
Received from his Excellency the Governor the following message:

Gentlemen—Having received from the Adjutant-General, the annual return of the militia of this state, I have the honor of submitting to your inspection, together with a letter accompanying the same, as containing observations worthy of legislative notice.

Although the Adjutant-General has done every thing in his power to render this return complete, yet it will be found to be otherwise. And further it will be found as a fact much to be regretted, that after such a considerable lapse of time, and under the most earnest and pressing instructions of the Adjutant General, that he has not been furnished with muster rolls for more than one thousand and six men, including every description; and inspectors' returns for four hundred and ninety-seven of the detachment of seven thousand and three militia required from this state. On this occasion it was expected that punctuality would be observed. Such remissness in the militia officers, merits the severest reprobation, and if not already punishable by our laws, ought to be made so.

To carry this levy into execution with punctuality and expedition, nothing has been wanting on the part of the Adjutant-General to facilitate the operation; for he has at great personal labor and inconvenience, furnished all the aid and information that was necessary. It would have proved a matter highly gratifying, if on this occasion, the state of North-Carolina had by her alacrity and promptitude taken prominent rank with her sister states, which she certainly was entitled to, had justice been done to the zeal and patriotism of her citizens.

NATHL. ALEXANDER.
Raleigh, Nov. 27, 1807.

His Excellency the Governor of the State of N. Carolina.
Raleigh, 23d Nov. 1807.

SIR,
The act to revise the militia laws of this

state relative to the Infantry, requiring the Adjutant-General "to make from all the annual returns, proper abstracts, and to lay the same, with a Report of the general state of the Militia, Magazines and Military Stores, and such improvements as he may think necessary for the advancement of discipline and benefit of the militia, annually, before the General Assembly or Commander in Chief of the state;" I do myself the honor of enclosing herewith, abstracts from all the returns I have received to this day.

Although they do not present a full view of the real military force of the state, yet they certainly place North-Carolina in a more respectable footing than any heretofore made; and I am satisfied that by a steady and improved pursuit of the means which have been used this year, (at an expence to the public, of less than one hundred dollars, including all the extra printing and postage for the detachment returns) our real numbers will prove to be near 60,000 instead of only 44,256, according to a statement published from the last returns, transmitted to the Secretary of War; making a difference of more than 15,000. By the abstracts now enclosed, you will perceive, notwithstanding two General Officers have failed to make their returns that our militia consists of

Infantry, Artillery, Cavalry, Total
44,483 32 1272 49,787

By the abstracts

1806, only 39,650 0 446 40,106
Making a difference of about ten thousand between this and last year's returns.
The increase of those most useful corps, the artillery and cavalry must afford great satisfaction; and it is hoped some means will be devised to make their proportions at least equal to that mentioned in the late demand from the War-Office, viz. 1-20th of artillery, and 1-10th of cavalry. The Establishment and increase of the rifle corps would also be very desirable.

In common with every well wisher to his country, I should feel much gratification (particularly at the present eventful crisis) if this communication could be made equally agreeable throughout; but, Sir, by the returns that were specially formed to procure the most perfect information from all the counties, I am authorized to declare and with much regret do REPORT, That there are NOT in any one of them, either magazines, military stores, cannon or field pieces, belonging to the state: That the militia, exclusive of a few volunteer corps, are deficient in all the requisites which would render them capable of honourable or effectual service, except strength, courage and patriotism. These excellent qualities, however, will enable them when well armed and disciplined, to achieve the most splendid victories over a nation that may dare to invade our free and happy land.

As the law further requires "the Adjutant General from time to time to make a report to the Legislature of what shall be done by him in virtue of his appointment, and to accompany the report with such remarks as may by him be deemed necessary for the better regulation and improvement of the military discipline throughout the state;" I shall endeavor to perform that arduous duty by respectfully offering my observations at large, during the present session, to the Legislature; and therefore think it unnecessary to trouble you further herein than briefly to remark, that those officers who are ignorant, being taught their duty; more frequent musters; heavier fines for neglecting to attend properly armed and accoutred, and more especially for not making returns; due attention to rank without which an officer cannot possess the laudable military pride which creates an enthusiasm that leads to great and glorious actions; and more frequent reviews by the superior officers; would in my humble opinion, greatly "benefit the militia," and promote the advancement of discipline throughout the state: but above all, the establishment of a select corps of the young and willing, to be uniformly armed by the state, clothed in regimentals at their own expence, and obliged to muster more frequently than common. These may retire after eight years service from their extra duty, and mingling with the great mass of militia, gradually introduce military spirit and discipline amongst the whole.

A detail of the measures pursued to complete the requisition made by direction of the President of the United States, for our quota of one hundred thousand militia, will be more properly introduced to notice by a separate report, which shall be made without any avoidable delay; but painful as the duty is, I think it proper to take this opportunity of expressing my extreme mortification, that notwithstanding the strict orders issued ever since the 25th July, subsequent letters soon followed, urging dispatch, and expressing my most earnest desire that N. Carolina should appear amongst the first states to make her return. Notwithstanding my laborious exertions and supplying forms in the utmost abundance to every division for the detachment, I have only received muster rolls of 1006 men including every description; and inspection returns of 497—

There are just grounds however to believe that the quota will be supplied ENTIRELY of Volunteers; a noble ardor having pervaded our fellow-citizens in every part of the state to repel insult, punish aggression, and defend the just rights and real independence of the United States of America.

I have the honour to remain with much consideration, sir,
your excellency's very obedient,
BENJAMIN SMITH,
Adjutant-General.

Senate of the United States.

Monday, November 16.

Mr. Mitchell rose to call the attention of the Senate to a motion he had made at the commencement of the session, relative to additional means of defence, and further measures of security to the seaports and harbors of the nation. This important subject had been introduced by him at an early day. It had been printed and laid on the table for consideration, and it was his original intention to have suffered it to lie there until the official intelligence alluded to in the message of the President should arrive from G. Britain.

Recent and alarming information which had reached the seat of government since the rising of the Senate on Friday last, though tinged with rumor and resting on the credibility of private communication, had however altered his mind, and the capitulation of Copenhagen, and the capture of the Danish fleet, were events of the utmost moment to neutral powers; and taught them that the greatest moderation, prudence and forbearance were of no avail in guarding a mild, an unoffending and peaceful people against the violence of its rapacious and stronger neighbor. A visitation of a similar nature might, in the course of things, be expected from the same quarter, and the fairest of our commercial cities might be wrapt in flames or battered to ruins.

Year after year had rolled away in fruitless negotiation. He doubted whether in the present posture of affairs, there would be any satisfactory adjustment of the points in dispute. It did not indeed follow that the failure to effect a treaty would necessarily bring on a war. But the dominion of the ocean was so proudly usurped by Britain, and the usurpation maintained by such a prodigious naval force, that it would be calculating extravagantly upon our good fortune, to expect that our rights would not be invaded by them: and in an age of the world, when it was fashionable for ruling statesmen to sweep away like cobwebs, abstract principles of right and written maxims of public law, it was surely a season when the weaker powers ought to employ every precaution for their safety.

It was not his intention to recommend the construction of a navy carrying metal enough to dispute the empire of the high seas. His only object was to provide a force sufficient to protect our acknowledged territory, and to preserve peace within our sea ports and harbors. During the intervals of peace it was the duty of wise statesmen to prepare for war. Although the United States had been in the enjoyment of that blessing with little interruption, for more than twenty years, there had been too little done to guard against those evils which in the common course of events it was scarcely possible to avoid. But although threatened with hostility from various quarters, the nation on the whole enjoyed a good share of tranquillity. There was yet time to prepare for the political tempest which would probably succeed the calm we had long experienced. The treasury was in a condition to furnish the necessary sums, without imposing a cent of tax upon ourselves. And with time and money at our disposal he conceived it to be a duty of the most imperative obligation that Congress should now retrieve by more than ordinary exertions the carelessness and neglect of preceding sessions.

During the last meeting of the national legislature, indeed, a decent appropriation was made for the repair and erection of defensive works where they should appear to be most wanted. But how inadequate was this provision! Exigencies had arisen during the recess, which had obliged the President to contract debts on the national account to almost three fourths of a million of dollars. And the bill on your table, Mr. President, has been brought in to make good this anticipated fund. Had Congress made more ample arrangements for the general safety, had they taken effectual measures of defence at an earlier day, or had they made the legal provision for purchasing the stores and implements which the general welfare requires, the Executive would not have been compelled to take the step which he has done, of pledging the national faith for a large amount of unappropriated money. But the Secretary of the Navy has acted wisely as well as boldly on this emergency—and the only sentiment to be uttered on the occasion is, that in consideration of the reluctance manifested by Congress to adopt an