

Great Mass Meeting at Goldsboro.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEABOARD.

OLD PARTY LINES IGNORED.

THE UNION OF THE SOUTH FOR THE SAFETY OF THE SOUTH.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

THE SPIRIT OF '76 AROUSED.

THE BANNER OF SOUTHERN RIGHTS UNFURLED.

ENCOURAGING SMILES OF THE FAIR ONES!

Patriots of all Parties in Conference.

THE FIRES OF LIBERTY BURNING BRIGHTLY.

Able and Eloquent Speeches from Distinguished Orators.

IMMENSE ENTHUSIASM.

TO MEET AGAIN IN THE CRADLE OF INDEPENDENCE.

&c. &c. &c.

On Friday, the 22nd instant, in accordance with a notice previously published, a portion of the people of the State of North-Carolina met in the town of Goldsboro, in compliance with an invitation from the citizens of that town, for the purpose of consulting upon the important issues which are agitating our country...

Thus assembled about 1,000 freemen of the State of North-Carolina, on the morning of the 22d day of March, 1861, and acting upon the rights of freemen, they met in council for deliberation. The first business of the day was to elect a President and a Secretary. Mr. J. W. Caldwell was elected President, and Mr. J. W. Caldwell was elected Secretary.

On motion of that gallant advocate of Southern Rights, V. C. Barringer, Esq., of Cabarrus, who prefaced his motion with a few patriotic and well-timed allusions to the history of our country...

My fellow-countrymen—I undertake the duties of the office to which you have chosen me, with alacrity and confidence. I am fully conscious that I am not a fit person to perform the duties of this office, but I am nevertheless, for the compliment, no language of mine can express the feelings of my heart on this occasion...

For what are we watching and waiting? Has not every effort of reconciliation failed? Has not every position for the settlement of our differences been hurled back into our faces by the Black Republicans? We are divided and the question is, where will we go? With the Black Republican North, or with the sisters of the South? (Cries—'With the South—the South—the South!')

Mr. President, I am growing tired. I am an old man. I have lived before this Constitution was formed, but, old as I am, my heart will be with you in every battle for the rights of the South. (Prolonged and deafening applause.)

Mr. President, I see present several ministers of the gospel, and I hope, before entering upon the important duties of our meeting, we will invoke Divine aid and counsel.

Mr. Ash said, before proceeding to business, he would state to the meeting that the Hon. F. J. Moses, who had been appointed by the Legislature of North-Carolina a Commissioner to the proposed Convention of

North-Carolina, was in town; and he would move that a committee of three be appointed to wait upon that distinguished gentleman and invite him to address this meeting, at his pleasure.

The President appointed Messrs. Ashe, Craige and Russell to perform that task. Gen. Greene said he had seen registered, upon the books of one of the Hotels of the town, the name of Edmund Ruffin, of the Confederate States; he hoped the committee, just appointed, would be instructed to wait upon him also, and invite him to a seat in this meeting. The committee were so instructed.

On the motion of Thos. J. Faison, Esq., of Sampson, the meeting proceeded to the selection of three gentlemen, from each Congressional district represented, whose duty it should be, to propose business for the further action of the meeting—and that they be instructed to report to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

The following gentlemen were selected by the various districts: 1st District—Dr. M. A. Wilcox, J. H. Prince, Dr. W. H. Hill. 2d District—George Greene, Geo. V. Strong, and J. A. Englander. 3d District—T. D. Meares, Thos. H. Holmes, Jas. Fulton.

Mr. Meares, of Brunswick, at the request of J. B. Whitaker, Esq., to whom it was addressed, proceeded to the meeting a letter from the Hon. D. M. Barringer, in his family prevented his attending a meeting of the Southern Rights men, in Goldsboro, expressing the opinion that the days of compromises had passed; promising the pretended compromises of the Peace Congress a cheat and a swindle, and urging the friends of Southern Rights to take a bold and decided stand in behalf of the Union.

The letter was read and ordered to be placed upon the Journals. Mr. Craige, in behalf of the Committee appointed to wait upon the Hon. F. J. Moses, reported that they had performed their duty, and it was the pleasure of the meeting, that gentlemen would proceed to address their respective districts.

The enthusiasm following this announcement was terrific. The shouts, hurrahs and applause of the multitude lasted for several minutes—exceeding anything we ever witnessed. Finally, silence ensued, and the distinguished stranger proceeded. He said: Fellow-citizens—Although belonging to a different county, I feel that I may be called a fellow-citizen, and I intend to remain so. Yes, said he, we are fellow-citizens—not only fellow-citizens, but bone of one bone, and flesh of one flesh. South-Carolina has only got a little ahead of her Northern sister in the race of delinquency from Black Republican tyranny. She expects you soon to come along with her. (We'll continue to follow her.)

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Mr. Meares addressed the meeting at length, and with ability. So, also, did Mr. Schenk, of Lincoln, and Mr. Fox, of Mecklenburg, but of these speeches we look no more, and therefore cannot do them the compliment of an extensive notice. Their speeches were eloquent and full of the fire of patriotism. At the conclusion of these speeches the meeting adjourned until 10 o'clock on Saturday.

At the conclusion of this speech, Edmund Ruffin, the venerable farmer of Virginia, was conducted to the stand by the Hon. W. S. Ashe, who introduced him to the audience. That venerable old gentleman, whose flowing white locks fell about his neck, but whose face beamed with the enthusiasm of youth, proceeded to address the audience.

He said, he came as a spectator, and not to take part in the proceedings. He appeared before this large audience in no public character whatever. He was but a plain citizen, though he claimed for himself the title of a Statesman. He was a citizen of the glorious Confederacy of the South. He was not a talking man, and least of all was he prepared to respond to so flattering a call at this moment. He would, however, refer to some points which his honorable friend touched in the course of his able and eloquent remarks.

He proceeded to read a paper, entitled 'border States entirely powerless in this Union, and while they might not have the power, constitutionally, to abolish slavery in the States, the day was not far distant when, by the introduction of new States, the North would have that power. He showed that, as the border States became more and more free-soilized, slaves would be transported South, to the amount of many millions of dollars annually, and the working classes of such a State of things would involve the country in bankruptcy.

Mr. Ruffin alluded to the fact of being in the Convention of South-Carolina when the ordinance of secession was passed. He said, when the ordinance was introduced, not a voice was heard in its favor. Not a voice was heard in its favor. Not a voice was heard in its favor. Not a voice was heard in its favor.

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would present all irritation, and the slightest possibility of collision or bloodshed. I cannot see how it is possible to do this, and at the same time to hold the forts, to collect the duties, and to execute the laws, and that this policy will be modified only by the necessities of the case.

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