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PENDLETON'S ORATION.

THE MECKLENBURG DECLARATION.

It influences a Century Ago—Its Re-
flex of the Character of the People
Who Made It—Its Memories of the
Past Undying, and a Guiding Star
for Fifty Millions of Free People in
America.

MY FELLOW-CITIZENS:

I am greatly honored by your invita-
tion to attend this festival.

It has never before been my fortune
to tread the soil of North Carolina, but
I am compensated for this earlier loss
by the auspicious circumstances under
which I now meet its hospitable people,
and see its rolling uplands and its smil-
ing valleys.
The new States carved out of Terri-
tory which were an unbroken
wilderness have no history. They have no
traditions. The lifetime of an old man
represents the entire existence of the oldest.
The merry child is older than the young-
est. No deeds of historic grandeur have
graced their borders. The rich
glories of a revolution without
a single taint of dishonor, almost
without a violation of private right,
which secured independence to our
country and self government to our
people, have hallowed none of their lo-
calities. That honor is reserved to the
"old thirteen" and their people. We
have the fullness of the present, and
the abounding hopes of the future, but we
have no past.

Accustomed, as you are, to these as-
sociations, living amidst scenes where
history has been acted and tradition
has been garnered, I think you scarcely
appreciate the sensation with which
a native of these new States realizes for
the first time that he treads the spot
where great deeds have been done, and
sees the very witnesses—mountain and
valley and river—which looked upon them.

To me your city is full of intense in-
terest. Yonder is King's mountain and
further the field of Cowpens. Almost
within your own county are Rocky
Mount and Hanging Rock, Cowan's
Ford. Yesterday I passed Greene's
camp of the Iron Works and the village
of Guilford Court house. I tread the
valleys watered by the Yadkin and
the Catawba and the Dan, and crossed
and recrossed the line of that masterly
retreat from the Cowpens to the Vir-
ginia line, which is one of the most in-
teresting chapters in military history.
Mr Graham has just said of it that
"contemplating the romantic Piedmont
country through which it was made,
the surmounting mountains near at hand,
and loftier ones in the distant view,
its lovely vale; its noble rivers, swollen
by floods; the battles and skirmishes
of the two armies and exploits of the
partisan corps and individuals; literally
their breath 'scapes and adventures by
blood and field; an imaginative mind
could not attempt its description with-
out bursting forth into song, and crown-
ing its heroes with unfading garlands."

These very streets witnessed the valor
of Davidson and Davie, when they com-
manded the heroic troops which resist-
ed the entrance of Cornwallis. These
very streets drank, then, the blood of
the brave. These very streets heard the
order of Gates—modest, faithful, but
unfortunate—when he relinquished the
command of the southern armies, and
installed Greene his more illustrious
and more fortunate successor.

And crowning glory of all, precursor,
stimulant, pledge in words, which these
heroic deeds so honorably redeemed,
are the noble people of this noble
country, wise as they were patriotic, far-
sighted as they were brave, first of all
Americans, declared their independ-
ence, established a home government
for themselves, and consecrated this
spot in the hearts, far the hopes of all
who then or since were, or in all the
hereafter, shall be liberty loving men.

When I realize this, not only does my
heart "exultant swell," that this is my
country and these were my countrymen
and a voice, imperative as that from the
burning bush, at once chastens and
commands its pride. "Put off thy shoes
from off thy feet, for the place whereon
thou standest is holy ground;" and
generally my heart obeys the injunction.
Every circumstance added luster
to the memorable event. From the
hour when the close of the seven years'
war fixed the destiny of the American
Colonies, the policy of the British govern-
ment had changed. Taxes must be
raised to support a military establish-
ment, and a military establishment
must be supported to levy and collect
the taxes. Chatham and Burke and
Madison and Barre resisted; but the
king and his ministry would not heed.
They were bent on subduing the spirit
of America. They would forget that
"born to the bright inheritance of Eng-
lish freedom, the inhabitants of this
extensive continent can never submit
to slavery."

Stamp acts, post bills, duties on im-
ports, not to regulate commerce but to
raise a revenue, followed in rapid suc-
cession. Irritation, apprehension of
war, encroachments, a love of lib-
erty common to all the colonists, those
sympathetic chords which, from many lands
and under varying conditions, united
them all to this continent, united
them as one people.

The New York committee, headed by
John Jay, addressed the Lord Mayor
and corporation of London and through
them all England.
America is grown so irritable by op-
pression that the least shock in any part
of the most powerful sympathetic
union instantaneously felt through-
out the whole. We speak the real senti-
ment of the colonists from Nova Scotia
to Georgia, when we declare that all
the horrors of civil war will never com-
pels America to submit to taxation by
authority of Parliament.

Events had hastened. Resistance to
unconstitutional legislation had at first
satisfied the wisest. Then redress of
grievances; and later, security for the
future, had been their demand.

In North Carolina the royal stamp-
master had been compelled to abandon
his office. In Philadelphia ships loaded
with tea were compelled to return to
England. In New York tea chests were
in open day tumbled into the river. In
Boston the famous "tea party" had
been held. In Maryland not only was
non-intercourse with England declared,
but also with every colony which would
not stand by the Common League after
the closing of the port of Boston.

The events at Concord and Lexington
and Ticonderoga followed.
The spirit of the country was fully
aroused; but there was "a fearful wait-
ing for things which were to come."
The Colonies were without governmen-
tal union. They were almost without
governments. The royal governors
were either beleaguered or shorn of
their authority. The executive power
of each colony was either in abeyance
or lodged in committees of safety.

The sensibility of North Carolina had
been long roused to the utmost pitch.
Illegal taxes had been levied—illegal
fees had been extorted—palaces had
been built—Congress had been dis-
solved or prorogued. Ashe had humbled
the Governor in the person of
Houston, the stamp-master. The peo-
ple of Mecklenburg had seized the sur-
veyor who was locating royal land
grants, and compelled him to desist.
The Regulators had organized. The
battle of Alamance had shed the first
blood of resistance. Tryon and Pan-
ning and Martin had in turn harried
the people. The first assembly inde-
pendent of royal authority had met at
Newbern, and appointed delegates to
the General Congress. "The colony was
in a state of anarchy and confusion.
The courts were closed—public crime
and private injustice had no check."

Still there was no union of the colonies.
The Continental Congress met on the
10th day of May, 1775. Franklin,
and Sam Adams, and John Adams, and
Washington, and Lee, and Patrick
Henry, and Clinton, and Jay were
members.

Bancroft says:
"They formed no confederacy; they
were not an executive government; they
were not even a legislative body, but
only committees from twelve colonies,
deputed to consult on measures of
conciliation, with no means of resist-
ance to oppression beyond a voluntary
agreement to suspend importations from
Great Britain. They owed the hall for
their sessions to the courtesy of the car-
penters of the city; there was not a foot
of land over which they had jurisdic-
tion; they had not power to appoint one
single officer to execute their decisions;
nor was one soldier enlisted nor one
officer commissioned in their name.
They had no treasury, and no authority
to lay a tax or to borrow money. They
had been elected—in part, at least—by
bodies who had no recognized legal ex-
istence; they were intrusted with no
powers but those of counsel. Most of
them were held back by explicit or im-
plied instructions; and they represented
nothing more solid than the unformed
opinions of an unformed people."

It was at this crisis that the men of
Mecklenburg met in convention. They
considered and debated the condition of
the colony throughout the day and even-
ing, and on the next day unanimously
adopted, and amidst the acclaim of the
people announced, the Declaration of
Independence. They did not wait for
consultation, or co-operation, or the
union of the colonies, or the
filling of a treasury, or the or-
ganization of an army. Fired by the
news, which arrived that very day,
of the battle at Lexington, these brave,
hardy, earnest, single minded men dis-
solved "the political bands which con-
nected them with the mother country,"
abjured all association with the nation
which had tyrannically trampled on their
rights and liberties, and inhumanly
persecuted the innocent blood of American
patriots at Lexington." On the 31st of
May they declared "all laws and com-
missions derived from the authority of
king or parliament are annulled; all
commissions, civil or military, granted
by the crown are void; the provincial
Congress of each province under direc-
tion of the great Continental Congress
is invested with all legislative and ex-
ecutive powers within their respective
provinces," and they proceeded "for
the better preservation of good order
(so runs the resolution) to form certain
rules and regulations for the internal
government of this country." Once
again hear these good men of Mecklen-
burg in this same year of 1775:

"The cause of Boston is the cause of
all; our destinies are indissolubly con-
nected with those of our Eastern fellow-
citizens, and we must either submit to
all the impositions which an unprin-
ciple parliament may impose, or support
our brethren who are doomed to sustain
the first shock of that power which, if
successful there, will ultimately over-
whelm all in the common calamity."
Led by this brave act of Mecklenburg,
the Provincial Congress at Halifax in
August entered into solemn covenant
to support the Continental Congress
and all its acts and resolutions; and in
April, 1776, authorized its delegates to
that Congress to unite "in declaring in-
dependency, forming foreign alliances,
reserving to this colony the sole and ex-
clusive right of forming a constitution
and laws for its government, and of ap-
pointing delegates from time to time to
meet delegates of the other colonies for
such purposes as shall hereafter be
pointed out."

This is the simple story which I love
to believe. Whether all its details are
accurately stated or not, it is certain
that thus Mecklenburg led the van of
that mighty movement whereby thir-
teen States, accordant, united, fraternal,
and finally exultant, were enabled
to close in triumph a long and destruc-
tive war and to usher into the family
of nations a new member, in fact as in
form, a Republic of republics, whose
flag has floated in every sea, and whose

influence is felt to the uttermost ends
of the earth.

All hail to Mecklenburg! Hail to
those wise, brave men, who did this
wise, brave act! Hail to you, men of
North Carolina, who have inherited the
glories of their lineage and preserved
the luster of their names!

I will not in this presence presume to
speak of the signers of the declaration.
Their names are your household words.
Their histories are familiar to you.
Their descendants are your neighbors
and fellow citizens.

Simple, severe, virtuous, brave, frugal,
tolling with head or hand for a
livelihood, healthful in body and mind,
sparing alike luxury and poverty, lov-
ing liberty, unable to endure oppres-
sion, catching an inspiration from this
pure air and lovely scenery, taught
alike by religion and by nature to look
from nature up to nature's God, their
characters are engraven on the opinions
and morals and manners and public
acts of this community. The circle en-
larges. It involves the whole State.

They did honor to humanity. North
Carolina, State and people have yielded
to their influence, emulated their char-
acteristics, and thus done honor to
them.

The history of North Carolina has
been in all respects good. In war she
has been faithful; in peace she has been
law-abiding and fraternal. She has se-
cured the liberty of her citizens, she
has furnished a university for the edu-
cation of her sons. No scandal has sul-
lied her name.

Without large cities or uncultivated
wastes, without colossal fortunes or ab-
ject poverty, without feverish, tempe-
stuous activity or sluggish idleness, with-
out law overriding liberty or license un-
regulated by law, she has known how
to tread with honor and dignity and
self respect that middle way which
philosophers and philanthropists have
told us is, for States as for individuals,
the path of true progress, and of that
higher wisdom whose ways are pleas-
antness and peace. Macon and Gaston
and Mangum and Graham and Badger
have, in all qualities of learning and
wisdom and statesmanship and honest,
honorable character, done her justice in
the eyes of the Union.

The people have given tone to the
State, and the State reflects the char-
acter of the people.

It requires no stretch of imagination
to believe that the virtues which have
marked the people of North Carolina
are close akin to, are, in the line of
close lineage, from those which
made the men of Mecklenburg illus-
trious a hundred years ago.

I have dwelt so long on the interest-
ing story of your name and fame, that
I feel constrained to be very brief.

Two thoughts appear to me sugges-
tive of practical usefulness to-day, and
both are embodied in the philosophy of
the divine teaching to a nation which
believed its institutions were a direct
revelation from God: "The Sabbath was
made for man, and not man for the Sab-
bath." Man is the central figure. For
him and out of him grow all institu-
tions of society and government. To
develop him, to advance him, to make
him wiser, better, purer, freer as citi-
zen, neighbor, friend—this is their end
and aim; but they are also and only the
results of his own moral and intellec-
tual growth. "Liberty cannot be man-
ufactured by statutes or constitutions
or laws. It is the outgrowth of men's
natures and beliefs and passions and
instincts and habits of thought." The
great attribute of self-government and
the real liberty which comes from it
cannot co-exist in any people with
bondage to their own ignorance and
passions and prejudices and superstitions.

One whose thoughtful and humane
nature should endeavor him to all men,
North and South, discussing another
question with admirable felicity of dic-
tion, (Senator Lamar, of Mississippi)
has said:

"Institutions and laws and govern-
ments and all the fixed facts of society
are but the material embodiment of the
thought of a people and the substantial
expression of their inner life; and lib-
erty, which is the culmination of them
all, is a boon that cannot be conferred
upon men, but to be permanently pos-
sessed and enjoyed must be earned, as
the reward of the development of their
moral and intellectual faculties."
Plato, the master of introspection,
the searcher of the human heart, ex-
claimed:

Thou gazeest on the stars, my son!
Oh, that I were a starry sky!
With thousand eyes,
That I might gaze on thee.

Another, wise and thoughtful in
his generation, has sung:

Fear, craft and avarice
Cannot rest a state:
Out of dust to make
What is more than dust:
Walls Amphion piled,
Phœbus establish must.

Man! For him all governments,
for him all institutions, for him all
laws. It has been decreed in the
eternal councils of God, that in un-
ending cycle of action and reaction
of good influences and great deeds,
those communities shall enjoy the
greatest liberty and therefore felicity
which develop most fully the pure
and good and exalted in the actions
and aspirations of their individual
members.

The men of Mecklenburg made the
declaration. The declaration did not
make them or their characters or
secure the liberty of themselves or
their descendants.

It is often easier to establish free
governments than to maintain them.
It is easier by one blow to get rid of a
tyrant than by the practice of vir-
tue and self-denial to be rid of the
many tyrannies by which corrupted
morals and corrupting manners,
groveling thoughts, and baser prac-
tices constantly overthrow free gov-
ernments among men. The voice of
Brutus, proclaiming one deed of
shame, could drive forth the race of
Tarquin. The sword of Virginia

bathed in the blood of his daughter
could bring Claudius to his death and
put an end to the order of Decem-
virs, but not all the horrors of two
triumvirates could rouse the people
of Rome to maintain the vigor and
power, and even the liberty, which
for centuries an elective consulship
had secured to them.

The barons at Runnymede extorted
the Charter of Liberty from King
John. After four centuries, ten
years of the great rebellion, the death
of Charles, the Commonwealth, Crom-
well, the miseries of the Restoration,
of "the golden age of the coward, the
bigot and the slave," the banishment
of James, the cold brutality of Wil-
liam, and the venality of Arne were
scarce sufficient to hand it over, all
tattered as it was, to the tender mer-
cies of the house of Hanover and the
ministry of Walpole.

Men of Mecklenburg! out of this
city went an influence which in the
end established independence and
created union. Shall there go out
from here that ten-fold greater influ-
ence necessary to preserve both?

One hundred years have brought
their trials and vicissitudes.

That independence of all foreign
power, that loving message "the
cause of all," have survived foreign
war and domestic war—have surviv-
ed the dangers of an unparalleled
growth in wealth, in population, in
extension of boundaries. Already
three millions of people have grown
to fifty million; already a fortune of
one million, then colossal, singular,
has become small in the midst of
those of one hundred million; already
thirteen States have grown to thirty-
eight; already the Farmer republic,
with few purposes, with small powers,
only the representative among na-
tions, has grown to be the Imperial
republic, supervising immense inter-
ests, exercising enormous powers,
levying more taxes, expending more
revenues than any government on
earth.

The greater trial is before you.
The danger comes from corruption,
from luxury, wasteful ways, from
that greed of gain which wasteful
ways make inevitable.

I do not doubt your virtue will be
equal to this trial also; but it must be
by living in the historic light of your
great ancestors, by remembering that
men, living men, high souled men,
honest, upright, virtuous, liberty
loving men, are the only solid founda-
tions of free States—that the first
duty of every thoughtful man is, not
to carve out institutions of govern-
ment, but to lead his fellow citizens,
by the supreme cultivation of civic
virtues, to be worthy of the best
institutions.

Gen. Grant's Misfortunes.

Washington Cor. Baltimore Sun.

It seems to be taken for granted
that the Senate bill to place General
Grant on the retired list will pass the
House, although it is known that
many members of both parties, just
as was the case in the Senate, are
privately opposed to the bill on prin-
ciple. Gen. Grant has a certain an-
nual income of \$15,000 which he
could not make way with even if so
disposed, so whatever other pleas
may be advanced in his behalf, that
of necessity cannot be. There is not
one of Gen. Grant's personal friends
here who undertakes to defend him
from blame in the failure of Grant &
Ward. They shake their heads and
say it is sad, and they are sorry, and
that is all. Attention is called to the
fact that Gen. Grant, although tak-
ing no active part in the business,
could not possibly be ignorant of the
pretense of profitable government
contracts under which his firm at-
tracted so much capital, for it was
daily talk in Wall street and among
the customers of the firm, many of
whom were his own personal friends.
Gen. Grant has been in Washington
at least one dozen times during the
period of his connection with the
firm, and he never made the least
inquiry as to these legal contracts,
which, however, so far as that is con-
cerned, his own knowledge of eight
years in the administration of the
government ought to have told him
could have no possible foundation.
There is not a petty department clerk
in Washington who does not know
that since the era of star route and
Indian contract frauds, which was
brought to a close at least three
years since, no fabulous profits
accrue from government contracts.
Neither is Gen. Grant so ignorant of
Wall street practices as has been
alleged since the downfall of his
firm. One has only to turn to the
testimony taken in the Black Friday
investigation to be convinced that
Gen. Grant had a very clear insight
into Wall street ways, and an expe-
rience from which he ought to have
taken warning. That testimony
shows that during his first term as
President a conspiracy was formed to
bull the gold market, in which
were Jay Gould, Jim Fisk and Cor-
bin. Gen. Grant's brother-in-law,
Both Gould and Fisk testified that
they did not give Corbin anything
until they were satisfied the govern-
ment would not do anything to put
down the price of gold, and they
were not satisfied of this until after
a personal interview with President
Grant. A check for \$25,000 was sent
direct to the White House. The com-
mittee of Congress, which was com-
posed of personal and political
friends of Gen. Grant, did not pur-
sue the investigation as closely as
they undoubtedly would had the oc-
cupant of the White House belonged
to another party, and in their report

they exonerated Gen. Grant. Such
a lesson as this would have been suf-
ficient to prevent most any man but
Gen. Grant from periling his great
name and reputation by linking it
with the fortunes of Wall street
sharks and scoundrels.

NEWS NOTES.

The newspaper Truth, of New
York, was sold by the sheriff on Sat-
urday to satisfy executions to the
amount of \$22,307. Wm. H. Brown,
of Brooklyn, bought the paper for
\$1,500.

A waterspout washed away the
track of the Missouri Pacific and
Union Pacific railroads south and
west of Leavenworth, Kansas, Sat-
urday. On the former road 150 feet
were washed away, and seven cars
loaded with cattle and an engine
tender went into the river.

Frank McGinness, weighmaster of
the Missouri Pacific Railroad at St.
Louis, has been arrested, charged
with defrauding the company weigh-
ing cars. He shared with shippers
the profits from the false weights.
One lumber firm is said to have
saved \$70,000 by getting McGinness
to certify to short weights on their
freight.

Chief Engineer Ludlow, of Phila-
delphia, in his report to the city
councils calls attention to the dan-
gerous pollution of the Schuylkill
river, which is used for drinking pur-
poses, by the sewerage from the city
and the poisonous chemicals and
waste from the factories.

Mr. Hewitt has written a letter to
Mr. Oliver, of Pittsburgh, Pa., in re-
ply to the latter's recent criticism of
Mr. Hewitt's tariff bill. Mr. Oliver
said the changes proposed by Mr.
Hewitt's bill in the duties on
metals were in the interest of Mr.
Hewitt's firm. Mr. Hewitt replies
that the changes recommended by
the tariff commission with which Mr.
Oliver was connected were in the
interest of Mr. Oliver and his firm.

In Philadelphia, Saturday, Judge
Penrose filed his opinion in the case
of Richard Carden against the estate
of Mary L. Richardson. Carden was
adopted by the Richardsons, and
Mary L. Richardson left him the in-
terest on \$10,000, and \$10,000 addi-
tional, "if he proved a good boy."
Last December Carden robbed the
Richardsons' house of two gold
watches and \$2,500, and the family
withheld the additional \$10,000. The
court sustained the family.

A letter from Guatemala states
that on the 18th of April an attempt
was made on the lives of President
Barrios and his war minister, Gen.
Barrunda, by exploding a bomb of
the nihilist pattern near them while
promenading in the evening in the
vicinity of the theatre. President
Barrios and Gen. Barrunda were
both slightly wounded. A saloon
keeper named Santos Soto and his
two sons are under arrest for the
crime. One of the sons has confessed
that he made the bomb, and that his
father placed it in position and
pulled the string that caused the ex-
plosion.

No Designs Upon Morocco.

PARIS, May 20.—The Republique
Francaise denies that France has
any intention of conquering Morocco.
All reports to that effect it pro-
nounces inventions of clumsy fabri-
cators of Spain, and the Sultan of
Morocco knows that they are entirely
without foundation.

Yellow Calf on the Move.

WINEPEG, May 20.—Yellow Calf
and Piapot, with a thousand follow-
ers, moved yesterday from the Indi-
an headquarters—Apella. They re-
fused to return to their reserves.
Sixty mounted police with cannon
have been ordered from Regina to
try to intimidate the Indians. All
quiet so far.

Rescued from the Mob.

GALVESTON, TEX., May 20.—A News
despatch from Denison states that a
negro who attempted to assault three
girls yesterday was hunted down by
a mob of citizens, captured in the
evening and taken to jail. At mid-
night a mob took him out to lynch
him and he was wounded by shots,
but the sheriff rescued him and se-
curely put him in jail again.

Down Town Mercantile.

Having passed several sleepless nights, disturbed
by the agonies and cries of a suffering child,
and becoming convinced that Mrs. Winslow's
Soothing Syrup was just the article needed, pro-
cured a supply for the child. On reaching home
and acquainting his wife with what he had done,
she refused to have it administered to the child,
as she was strongly in favor of homeopathy.
That night the child lay in bed in suffering, and
the parents without sleep, the morning home the
day following, the father found the baby still worse;
and the mother was distressed with the sudden
mother stepped from the room to attend to
some domestic duties, and left the father with the
child. During her absence he administered a por-
tion of the Soothing Syrup to the baby, and said
nothing. That night all hands slept well, and the
little fellow awoke in the morning bright and hap-
py. The mother was delighted with the sudden
and wonderful change, and although at first offend-
ed at the deception practiced upon her, has contin-
ued to use the Syrup, and suffering crying babies
and restless nights have disappeared. A single
trial of the Syrup never fails to relieve the
baby, and overcome the jealousy of the mother.
Sold by all Druggists 25 cents a bottle.

Hay! Hay!! Hay!!!
20 Tons Prime Timothy Hay,
20 Tons Prime Mixed Timothy Hay,

For sale by
P. B. SUBLETT & SON,
Opposite C. and O. Depot,
Stamton, Va.
may16d3t

Mrs. Joe Person's Column.

Mrs. Joe Person's

REMEDY,



TRADE MARK. REGISTERED.

The Great Blood Purifier

WILL CURE

Rheumatism, Cancer, in its
early stages, Erysipelas, Heart
Disease, Indigestion, Bilious
Colic, Eruptions, Skin and
Blood Diseases.

Unequalled as a Tonic.

As an Alternative it gives Uni-
versal Satisfaction.

As a Purifier of the Blood, it
is indorsed by all who use it.

Infallible for Scrofula.

It Relieves Catarrh.

It is an Antidote for Blood
and Malarial Poison.

It will restore the System after
having had Chills and
Fevers.

It will Cure all Blood Dis-
eases.

DIRECTIONS:

Regulate the dose according to age
and effect upon the system, giving,
ordinarily, a child five years old, a
teaspoonful. A grown person, begin
with a tablespoonful and gradually
increase to a wine glass one-half or
two-thirds full. Give three times a
day, an hour before each meal, and
eat nothing for an hour before taking
it. For children the dose may be
weakened and sweetened. No
Spiritous Liquors must be used
while taking it. Price \$1.

GENERAL AGENTS:

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| Boykin, Carmer & Co., No. 11 &
13 Liberty street,
Wm. H. Brown & Bro., No. 25
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