

CHRISTMAS ADDRESS For 1839.

To the Patrons of the Southern Citizen.

BY THE CARRIER.

'Tis Christmas! Permit me to meet you,
Presenting a peep at the times,
The carrier turns out thus to greet you
With some of the best of his rhymes.

How many fine stories I've printed!
The reader's good taste to refine,
And many choice morals I've hinted,
Through the course of the year—*Thirty-nine*

The news of the day—not neglected;—
Kept the right side of Politics in view;
While many a rogue's been detected,
By exposing whatever was true.

Where Elections don't go to my mind, sir,
I point out the way to amend,
And, sooner or later, you'll find, sir,
I'm generally right in the end.

This morning I rose very early,
And reviewed the events of the year,
When I saw we were smarting severely,
In this wastful, Van Buren career.

Our Councils are all in confusion;
Public officers—*hooking* the cash.
Never was there so gross a delusion:—
Our currency—turned into trash.

When Jackson was raised to promotion,
The country was warned of its fate;—
Such blind, sycophantic devotion,
Distracted the councils of State.

Van Buren then came into power,
And things grew no better—but worse.
Our resources the party devour;
They unite too the *Sword* and the *Purse*.

Their measures are quite too high-handed
For Republican Freemen to bear,
Their seats will be shortly demanded
And HARRISON called to the *Chair*.

Better times then! we can't be mistaken—
As soon as the country's restored,
Their "Experiments" will all be forsaken
And good faith in our rulers secured.

But we have too much cavil and strife, sir;
Good Christians must always forbear,
Each Christmas, review your past life, sir;
And look to your morals with care.

Let the bounds of your mirth be in reason;
And naught be indulged to excess.
Let your bounty, this Thanks-giving season,
Be employed in relieving distress.

My lecture I've now nearly ended.
I hope you'll observe what I preach,
The rights of the *Fair* I've defended;
And the Patriot's duty I teach.

For all this,—can't you give me a shilling,—
My contingent expenses to bear?
Then my duty you'll find me fulfilling
Through the course of the ensuing year.

Thank you, Sir! I now shall remember
Your kindness so cheerful and free,
Every *Twenty-fifth* day of December,
I'll requite all your favors to me.

T. B. WOODBURN.

December 25th, 1839.

In the House of Representatives yesterday, all the members having been sworn in except the five from New Jersey, who have been thus far denied the right to act as members, the question naturally arose (in the changed condition of the House) upon admitting them to the rights which they claim under the laws and acts of the State Government of New Jersey. A proposition, introduced to test the sense of the House on that point, was submitted, and gave rise to a debate, which had not closed when, at a little before sunset, the House adjourned.

National Intelligencer of Dec. 18.

It is gratifying to discover that not only has a Speaker been chosen for the House of Representatives, but the gentleman appointed to discharge the high functions of that office possesses qualifications the knowledge of which his retiring disposition had hitherto confined to his friends and intimates. Among the qualities which he exhibited yesterday are a ready judgment, a dignified deportment, and a commanding voice. To those who will take the trouble to read the brief Address delivered by him

yesterday on taking the Chair, it will be no less apparent that good taste is united in this gentleman with truly constitutional spirit & a wise discretion. In view of these things, we must be permitted again to congratulate the country that the House of Representatives has elected a Speaker so worthy of its choice.—*Id.*

MISSOURI BOUNDARY WAR.

St. Louis, Dec. 5.

We learn that Maj. General Willock, of the 4th division of Missouri militia, having received official intelligence that the sheriff of Clark county, in this State, had been arrested whilst executing some legal process under the authority of Missouri, within the disputed territory, and was committed to prison by the authorities of Iowa, has marched with a portion of his forces to his release. In the meantime, to make assurance doubly sure, as well as to obey the general order of the Governor of Missouri, requiring him to support and protect the civil officers of Clark county in the discharge of their duties within the disputed territory, he has required the Generals commanding the 11th, 12th, and 13th divisions to hold a portion of their respective commands in readiness to march at a moment's warning. In pursuance to this order, we understand that troops in St. Charles, Lincoln, Pike, Ralls, and probably some other counties, are awaiting orders to march to the disputed territory, if their services are needed.—*Republican.*

House of Representatives,

December 17, 1839.

At noon to-day, the Speaker of the House (the Hon. R. M. T. Hunter) took the chair and called the House to order; after which, he rose & addressed the House as follows:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives: The high and undeserved honor which you have conferred upon me was so unexpected, that even now I can scarcely find terms in which to express my grateful sense of your kindness. I trust, however, to be able to offer a better evidence of that sentiment in the earnest efforts which I shall make to discharge my duties justly and impartially. Called as I have been to this high station, not so much from any merits of my own as from the independence of my position, I shall feel it as especially due from me to you to preside as the Speaker, not of a party, but of the House. Whilst I shall deem it my duty on all proper occasions to sustain the principles upon which I stand pledged before the country, I shall hold myself bound at the same time to afford every facility within my power to the full and free expression of the wishes and sentiments of every section of this great Confederacy.—You will doubtless deem it your duty, gentlemen, as the grand inquest of the nation, to investigate all matters of which the People ought to be informed; to retrench expenditures which are unnecessary or unconstitutional; to maintain the just relations between all of the great interests of the country; and to preserve inviolate the Constitution which you will be sworn to support; whilst it will be mine to aid you in such labors with all the means within my power. And although deeply impressed with a painful sense of my inexperience and of the difficulties of a new and untried station, I am yet cheered by the hope that you will sustain me in my efforts to

preserve the order of business and the decorum of debate. I am aware that party fervor is occasionally impatient of the restraint which it is the duty of the Chair to impose upon the asperity of debate, but at the same time I know that the just of all parties will sustain the Speaker who is honestly endeavoring to preserve the dignity of the House and the harmony of its members.

Permit me, in conclusion, gentlemen, to tender you the homage of my heartfelt thanks for the honor which you have conferred upon me, and to express the hope that your councils may be so guided by wisdom as to redound to your own reputation and the welfare of our common country.



THE CITIZEN.

ASHEBORO' N. C.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1839.

WHIG NOMINATIONS.

FOR PRESIDENT,

WM. HENRY HARRISON,
OF OHIO.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

JOHN TYLER,
OF VIRGINIA.

For Governor of North Carolina,

JOHN M. MOREHEAD,
OF GUILFORD COUNTY.

CONGRESS.

After two weeks spent by the members of the House of Representatives in idle and angry brawling, they succeeded on the 16th instant in electing a Speaker—Mr. HUNTER of Virginia.

The 11th and last balloting resulted as follows:

For R. M. T. Hunter.—Messrs. Adams, Alford, J. W. Allen, Simeon H. Anderson, Andrews, Barnard, Bell, Bidle, Black, Bond, Botts, Briggs, Brockway, Anson Brown, Sampson H. Butler, William B. Calhoun, John Campbell, William B. Campbell, William B. Carter, Chinn, Chittenden, Clark, Colquitt, J. Cooper, M. A. Cooper, Corwin, Crabb, Cranston, Crockett, Curtis, Cushing, E. Davies, G. Davis, Dawson, Deberry, Dennis, Dillett, Edwards, Evans, Everett, Filimore, Fisher, R. Garland, Gates, Gentry, Giddings, Goggin, Goode, Graham, Granger, Graves, Green, Griffin, Grinnell, Habersham, Hall, W. S. Hastings, Henry, Hill, of Virginia, H. Inman, Holmes, Hopkins, Hunt, James, Jenifer, Johnston, W. C. Johnson, T. B. King, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marvin, Mason, Mercer, Mitchell, Monroe, Morgan, C. Morris, Naylor, Nisbet, Ogle, Osborne, Palen, Peck, Pickens, Pope, Proffitt, Randall, Randolph, Rariden, Rayner, Reed, Redway, Russell, Saltonstall, Sergeant, Simonton, Slade, Truman Smith, Stanly, Storrs, Sumter, Stuart, Palatiello, W. Thompson, Junr., Tillinghast, Toland, Triplett, Trumbull, Underwood, P. J. Wagner, Warren, E. D. White, John White, Thomas W. Williams, L. Williams, J. L. Williams, C. H. Williams, S. Williams, H. A. Wise—119.

For J. W. Jones.—Messrs. J. Allen, Atherton, Banks, Beirns, Blackwell, A. V. Brown, W. O. Butler, Carroll, Clifford, Connor, Dean, Dromgoole, Earl, Ely, Fine, Hand, J. Hastings, Hawkins, John Hill, of N. C., Hillen, Holleman, Howard, J. Johnson, N. Jones, Keim, Kemble, Leonard, Lowell, Lucas, McClellan, McKay, Miller, Parish, Parmenter, Petrikon, Prentiss, Rives, Jas. Rogers, Shaw, Shepard, J. Smith, T. Smith, Steenrod, Strong, Swearingen, Sweeny, Taylor, F. Thomas, P. F. Thomas, Turney, Vanderpoel, Weller, J. W. Williams, H. Williams, Worthington—55.

For George M. Keim.—Messrs. Beatty, Bynum, John Davis, Duncan, Forrance, Galbraith, Gerry, Hammond, Hook, Hubbard, Leadbetter, Leet, Lewis, McCulloch, Marchand, Montgomery, S. W. Morris, Newhard, Paynter, Ramsey, Robinson, E. Rogers, Samuels, D. D. Wagener—24.

For Zadok Casey.—Messrs. Boyd, Brewster, Carr, Craig, Dana, De la Montayne, Doig, Cave Johnson, Reynolds, Wick—10.

For F. W. Pickens.—Messrs. A. G.

Brown, Chapman, Coles, Cross, Medill, Rhett, Starkweather, Jacob Thompson, Watterson—9.

For C. G. Atherton.—Burke, Eastman, Floyd, Jackson—4.

For Thomas Davee.—Messrs. H. J. Anderson, Fletcher, Parris—3.

For Francis Thomas.—Messrs. Casey, J. W. Jones, Mallory—3.

For D. A. Starkweather.—Mr. Crary—1.

For Nathan Clifford.—Mr. Davee—1.

For T. A. Howard.—Mr. J. W. Davis—1.

For Lion Boyd.—Mr. Jameson—1.

For D. H. Lewis.—A. Smith—1.

POLITICS OF THE SPEAKER.

Mr. Hunter, (the Speaker elect of the House of Representatives) is said to be no Party man. We perceive that both sides lay some claim to him. It appears that the Whig members, to a man voted for him; and a great portion of the Van party—against him. We have some reason, however, to presume that the result is generally satisfactory. If Mr. Hunter, by his candor and impartiality, has secured the confidence of different parties, he is the very man to be placed over the deliberations of the House.—But if, on the contrary, he has sought, and procured his election, by concealing his real intention and holding out false pretences—like one member, to our knowledge, crept into Congress,—then he deserves the same condemnation that Fisher is receiving at the hands of his Whig constituents, who now see him acting the part of a real Locofoco. He has made no speeches; but we allude to his disorganizing votes on the New Jersey question, and the ten votes he gave Dixon H. Lewis, (the chief favorite of the Vans,) for Speaker. It will be perceived however, that on the 11th and last ballot, he turned, with a few others of his party, for Mr. Hunter. Perhaps he began to see that he was carrying the joke rather too far.

The following paragraph, from the National Intelligencer, will probably aid the reader, in some small degree, in estimating the political complexion of the Speaker:

THE ELECTION OF SPEAKER.

We have the unfeigned satisfaction of announcing to our readers and the Public that the Representative branch of Congress has at length effected the election of a Speaker, and may thus be considered as relieved from all further obstacles to an immediate and complete organization. The member on whom the honor has fallen is Mr. Robert M. T. Hunter, a Representative from Virginia, who was elected yesterday on the eleventh trial, he having received 119 votes out of 232. In the personal and political character of the gentleman on whom the choice has fallen, the House has every guaranty for a dignified, just and faithful discharge of his high duties; and therefore we hope we may say without disrespect to the many distinguished gentlemen previously voted for—the choice may be esteemed not less fortunate for the House and for the country than it is honorable to himself, especially when we consider the difficulty which so long prevented an election, and which rendered the issue of the contest so uncertain. To those who desire to examine the election as a political result, it will be sufficient for us to say that Mr. Hunter received, on the last and successful trial every Whig vote in the House, which, united with the votes of nearly all the State rights gentlemen of the South, effected his election.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE.

We have uniformly been careful, in our Editorial course, to do or say nothing calculated improperly to destroy the confidence of the people in the constituted authorities of the Government. But when the abuse of privilege becomes so common and so outrageously unsufferable and degrading, as it has done since the reckless violence of Jacksonism began to poison and corrupt the public morals,—it would be in a high degree criminal in an Editor not to expose it to the indignation of a people who have so much at stake as we have.—Our rights and liberties, as well personal, as civil and political, depend on national character, which cannot be sus-

tained, unless our public servants preserve some regard to the dignity of their station, and Legislative Assemblies proceed with order and parliamentary decorum.—Who can have confidence in the legislation of such men as those members of Congress who kicked up such a row, a few days ago, in organizing the House of Representatives? The *Newbern Spectator* truly remarks:

"No gathering of free negroes could behave more ridiculously or outrageously than 'the assembled wisdom' of our glorious Republic has done since the House met on the 2nd.—While the destroying spirit of Anarchy stalks abroad in the land, as it has for the last ten years, we can expect but a succession of such scenes."

Read also the following, from the *Fayetteville Observer*:

"Congress.—We have given as full a report as we have room for, of the doings of the House. But we are told by an eye witness, that no report can give a correct conception of the scenes—particularly those of Wednesday last.—'Liar,' 'damned liar,' 'damned rascal & scoundrel,' were bandied about as familiarly as household words. In the midst of Turney's violent harrangue, in which he insulted the venerable Chairman and the whole Whig party, Mr. Stanly is said to have rushed towards him, and in reply to his remark, that the sooner a row was got-up the better, is said to have told him to come on, as soon as he pleased, that he had marked him for his antagonist, &c. The whole House was in an uproar, all the members on their feet, and many talking at once, shaking their fists, &c. It is said that half the members are armed with pistols or bow-knives.

PARTY SHIFT.

A proposition has been introduced in the Legislature of Tennessee, (now in Session,) to change the mode of electing Electors for President and Vice President of the U. S. to that of *General Ticket*. This is understood to be an expedient of the Van-party, to stifle the voice of the large, Whig minority in that State.

It were greatly to be wished that all the States would adopt one uniform method of electing Electors to vote for President and Vice President. As the matter now stands—some using the district system, and others the *general ticket* system,—a minority of the voters may elect a majority of the Electors; and consequently, a President get into office who is not the choice of a majority of the people. This may be made plain in a few words: Suppose the Union to consist of New York and Pennsylvania only; the former voting by general ticket, and the latter by districts. Now if New York gives two hundred thousand votes, ninety-nine thousand may be given for one set of Electors, and one hundred and one thousand for the other set,—electing the whole forty-two by a majority of two thousand: Pennsylvania gives about one hundred and forty thousand votes, and elects thirty Electors by districts; suppose the minority be but five thousand strong, and be with the majority in New York.—Then there will be forty-three Electors chosen on one side by a popular vote of one hundred and six thousand; (viz: 101,000 in New York, and 5,000 in Pennsylvania; while the minority in New York, (99,000,) and the majority in Pennsylvania, (135,000,) amounting to two hundred and thirty-four thousand, can only elect twenty-nine Electors. Hence it is evident that a majority, consisting of two hundred and thirty-four thousand voters, may be silenced and put down by a minority, consisting of only one hundred and six thousand voters—more than two to one. And the result is, that in a population of three million four hundred thousand, the voice of two million three hundred thousand may be effectually stifled and set at naught,—totally sacrificed to the caprice of a factious minority of less than half their number. And the result will be the same, whether we take the basis of two States, above assumed, or combine any other number, even embracing the