

# WESTERN DEMOCRAT.

A Family Paper, devoted to State Intelligence, the News of the World, Political Information, Southern Rights, Agriculture, Literature, and Miscellany.

BY JOHN J. PALMER, Editor and Proprietor.

CHARLOTTE, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.

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**Western Democrat**

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OFFERS his professional services to the public, in the practice of SURGERY, in all its various departments.  
Dr. GIBBON will operate, treat, or give advice in all cases that may require his attention.  
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Jan. 29, 1856.—4f

S. W. DAVIS,  
Attorney & Counsellor at Law,  
CHARLOTTE, N. C.  
Jan. 1, 1856.—4f

THE FEMALE SCHOOL.  
The second Term, or Summer Session of Miss SARAH F. DAVIS'S SCHOOL, will commence on the 31st of March next—the 1st Monday of the month.  
Charlotte, Feb. 26, 1856.—4f

MRS. WHEALAN,  
Dress Maker,  
Opposite the Post-Office.

ALL DRESSES cut and made by the celebrated A-B-C method, and warranted to fit.

BONNETS  
Trimmed in the latest style, at the shortest notice.  
Charlotte, Feb. 12, 1856.—4f

ENCOURAGE THIS KNOWING.  
THE undersigned begs leave to return his thanks to those who favored him with a call during the last year, and he would respectfully inform the public that he has removed to the Machine Shop formerly occupied by Messrs. George & Whisman, adjoining Mr. J. Rudolph's Steam Printing Mills, where he is prepared to execute all work in his line as cheap and as good as can be done in the State.

Turning, Cutting Screws, Repairing Boilers and Engines of all descriptions, Making and Repairing Mill Spindles, Wood Planers, Making Ploughs, Ironing Wagons, and in Horse-Shoeing, &c., we will yield to no one for neatness, wear, and dispatch. Interfering Shoes \$1.25, common ditto \$1, cast-iron, or steel plate, \$2.

I have also erected an Air Furnace for mending Brass, which answers finely. The public can now get brass and composition castings by calling at the above establishment, and furnishing patterns. Old Brass melted over at reduced price, with neatness and dispatch. Old Copper and Brass wanted.

S. J. PERRY,  
Charlotte, Jan. 1, 1856.—4f

PIANO FORTES.  
M. R. RAMSEY, of Columbia, S. C., is constantly receiving a good supply of Pianos with the LATEST IMPROVEMENTS, which has given them the premium over all others. 6 and 8 octaves from \$250 to \$300, 7 and 8 octaves from \$300 to \$450, Carved wood, and Grand Pianos from \$500 to \$1000.

Mr. R. being a practical Piano Maker can insure to his customers a perfect instrument.  
Columbia, June 24, 1855.—49f

Raleigh & Gaston Rail Road.  
OFFICE R. & G. R. CO.,  
RALEIGH, March 29, 1856.

Schedule for Mail Train,  
On and after Tuesday, the first day of April, 1856.

ON AND AFTER TUESDAY NEXT, the Mail Train, leaving the North Carolina Railroad Depot, on the arrival of the Cars from the West, at 5.47, A. M. (as at present), will stop at the Northern (or old) Depot, in this City, until 7 o'clock, allowing ample time for passengers to reach the breakfast at the hotels in Raleigh, to and from which they will be conveyed by the proprietors, free of charge.

Leaving at 7 o'clock, the Train will arrive at Weldon at 11.40, A. M., in full time for all Trains going North, and also for the Wilmington Train, going South. Returning—will leave Weldon at 2 P. M., after the arrival of the Petersburg, Portsmouth, and Wilmington Trains, and will reach Raleigh at 6.45, P. M.

R. A. HAMILTON, President.  
April 8.—1f.

Wilmington, Charlotte, & Rutherfordton Rail Road.

PURCHASERS of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherfordton Rail Road Company, books are again open for subscriptions to the Capital Stock of said Road, at the Rock Island Store, and the offices of Wm. Johnson, C. J. Fox, and S. W. Davis. All who feel interested in the honor and prosperity of the old North State, are solicited to come forward and aid in this great work, the only real public enterprise that has ever sprung upon our people.

CHARLES J. FOX,  
S. W. DAVIS,  
WM. JOHNSON,  
JNO. A. YOUNG,  
JOHN WALKER,  
LEROY SPENCING,  
B. H. DAVIDSON,  
Commissioners.  
13—4f

## News of the Day.

NEGRO STEALING.  
Last week, we copied a paragraph from the Columbia Times, stating that a merchant residing in Sumterville had been arrested on the charge of negro stealing.

The annexed details of the theft and the tragedy of the miserable criminal, WILLIAM F. BYRD, we copy from the Sumter Watchman.

BYRD, the guilty man, has only anticipated the sentence of the court which would be passed upon him after his trial.

[From the Sumter Watchman.]  
CRIME AND SUICIDE.—Since our last issue, a case involving circumstances of deep and exciting interest has been developed in our very midst—exciting in every detail from the beginning, but doubly more so in the tragical issue.

Our readers will remember to have seen, some time since, an advertisement in the Watchman, by our townsman Col. F. J. Moses, of two slaves who were missing from his premises. Their long absence, which could not be accounted for on the score of any provocation or indignity offered them, or of any expressed dissatisfaction on their part, taken in connection with the mysterious disappearance, some time before, of a negro boy of another one of our citizens, soon induced the belief in the minds of most persons that they were stolen.

Various circumstances fixed the suspicions of the community upon a particular individual. The matter was kept still, however, for some time, until at last, after some fessing, a sufficient clue was obtained to the whereabouts of the negroes, to warrant a gentleman of our town in taking a trip to the town of Americus in the lower part of Georgia.

Arrived there, he was not long in discovering the person to whom they had been sold, and in identifying the negroes. The purchaser, Mr. Hooks, upon being convinced that he had been victimized, readily yielded them up, and upon the suggestion of the gentleman who had gone in quest of them, consented to return with him to this place. They arrived here on Tuesday evening, the 8th instant.

After some delay in making out the necessary papers, Mr. Hooks, accompanied by our efficient sheriff and others, strolled by the new store of Byrd and Louis. It was brilliantly lighted up, and was filled with a jolly company.

Immediately, and without hesitation, Mr. Hooks declared, that, in the person of Wm. Friendly Byrd, he recognized the individual from whom he had purchased the slaves. The sheriff then entered the store, accompanied by a friend of Mr. Hooks. Telling him, that there was some dissatisfaction about the titles to certain property that he had sold, he was easily persuaded to make a confession of judgment. It is said that he understood the allusion to be to another transaction; but of that we cannot speak.

This accomplished, the Sheriff produced a warrant, arrested him on the charge of negro-stealing, and lodged him in jail. The Grand Jury returned a verdict of "true bill" on the indictment, the next day, and the prisoner was at once arraigned. But, at the request of his attorneys, the trial was postponed until Monday.

In the meantime, Capt. Friersen, the sheriff, observed every precaution for the safe-keeping of the prisoner. He was confined in a dungeon and chained to the floor. There are no iron cuffs for the ankles in the jail, and accordingly it was necessary to bind a common chain about his ankle, and secure it with a padlock. It will be seen at a glance, that it is impossible to adjust the unpliant links very closely to the limb without injury to it—still, he was thought to be securely bound. This was deemed necessary at first, from several considerations, but especially so afterwards, when there were good reasons to believe that he meditated mischief upon himself. A note to his wife, written in pencil on the margin of a newspaper, was intercepted. In it, he implored her to send him strychnine or leadum, saying that he wished to die; that the whole world was against him; that the sheriff had confined him so closely that he could see no one out of his presence.

On Monday morning, when the jailer opened the door of the cell to give the prisoner his breakfast, he was startled with a horrid spectacle. Suspended from the iron grating of the window, with a sheet twisted into a rope and tied about his neck, was the unfortunate man—dead. By dint of hard squeezing, of which his feet afterwards shewed the marks, he had forced them from the loop of the chain. The rest was easily done. He climbed to the window; fastened the sheet to one of the bars; passed a slip-rope over his head; tied his feet; secured his hands behind his back with a handkerchief, and leaped to the floor. Immediately upon the discovery, a physician was called in, but he was beyond the reach of remedy. Miserable man! A jury of inquest was impaneled by Coroner Nettles, and a verdict rendered, in accordance with the circumstances that we have detailed.

THE VIRGINIA SEARCH LAW.—The steamer Maryland, which was detained at Norfolk because the captain refused to suffer her to be searched for absconding slaves, in accordance with the law recently passed by the State Legislature, was released last Friday, the captain having paid the fine of \$500.

## THE KANSAS FREESOILERS.

We have already informed our readers of the cowardly move of the mock free-soil Legislature of Kansas, as soon as they discovered that Governor Shannon was approaching to arrest the members, on a charge of treason. They immediately adjourned, to meet again on the 4th of July, and dispersed.

On this subject a late letter from Kansas to the St. Louis Republican says: "The Legislature of Topeka was a miserable and ludicrous abortion, and its members are hiding themselves from judicial processes, like frightened ostriches. Some have fled to Iowa, some to Missouri, and the rest are hiding themselves 'in bushes, in the vain hope of security. The Grand Jurors of the Circuit Court, under the instruction of the Judge (LeCompte,) have indicted not only the members, but all the judges of election, and it is the intention of his Honor, at his term in Douglas, which begins next week, to have bills found against Gov. Robinson, Lieutenant Gov. Roberts, and all the executive officers. It is thought by some, that when the sheriff enters Lawrence to arrest these functionaries there will be resistance and bloodshed; but I apprehend nothing of the kind. The farcical attempt to hold a Legislature, and ridiculous pretensions that have been made to amend the laws of the Territory, and to set up an independent government which should supersede the present, have disgusted many of their own party, who see the absurdity and utter futility of all such efforts, and are determined henceforth to recognize the existing authorities. Besides which, many of the people of the North who came here with the strongest prejudices against slavery, have seen the error into which a one-sided view of the subject had led them, and are now its warmest advocates, not only on the ground of profit and convenience, but of utility and humanity. They have ocular and experimental demonstration that it is better, both for the whites and blacks."

SOUTHERN STUDENTS IN NORTHERN COLLEGES.  
The New York Tribune, the most popular of all the Northern newspapers, has the following:

"We know of eminent persons, long connected with our most distinguished universities, who regard the Southern students as the curse of their colleges, and who would take it as a blessing should never another enter their walls. They are, in fact, semi-barbarians, with most of the vices, if with some of the virtues, of savages, and unfitted by their previous training for association with civilized and Christianized youth. Of course there are exceptions of well-mannered, well-bred Southern youths, in whose society there is no necessary contamination. But they are rare ones and generally to be found among those who have been caught young and reared at the North."

"We commend the above.

INTERESTING CELEBRATION.  
The birth-day of Henry Clay was celebrated on Saturday last on a grand scale in his native county of Hanover, Virginia, at the Slash Cottage, situated immediately on the railroad between Fredericksburg and Richmond. A large crowd was in attendance, among them Senators Crittenden, of Kentucky, Butler, of South Carolina, Jones, of Tennessee, Douglas, of Illinois, Bigler, of Pennsylvania, Jones, of Iowa, and Mason, of Virginia; and the following members of the House of Representatives: Underwood, of Kentucky, Caldwell, of Pennsylvania, Harris, of Alabama, Davis, of Louisiana, and Caskie, of Virginia. Attorney General Caleb Cushing; Sydney Webster, Esq., Private Secretary of the President; P. Barton Key, U. S. District Attorney; U. S. Marshal Hoover. A splendid dinner was served up, and eloquent speeches were delivered by Messrs. Cushing, Crittenden, Butler, Douglas, Jones, Bigler, Mason, Jones, Caldwell, Botts, Webster and Key. The ceremony of christening the Slashes by the name of Ashland was performed with great fervor, Mr. Botts conducting the services peculiar to the occasion. The company separated at an early hour in the evening.

LYNCH LAW IN CHINA.  
The New York Commercial has the following extract of a letter from China, dated December 8:

"Our peaceable suburbs were a scene of unquietude on yesterday afternoon. A Canton man quarreled with a Fuh Chau man in the street and killed him on the spot. He was instantly seized by the mob, and with his hands tied behind him, taken to the top of the hill back of the foreign houses, and bound to a pine tree. The wife of the murdered man took a nail and drove it into the body, shoulders, breast, temple and eyes of the writhing culprit, aided and abetted by a furious multitude in her bloody revenge. The man was just alive at sundown, several hours after. I saw the mangled body this morning. The head was a perfect mass of gore. The conduct of the woman is loudly applauded by the natives."

NEW COURTEFFET.—Fives on the Merchants' Bank, Newbern, North Carolina, are in circulation in and about Pittsburg. The vignette is an Indian, and a female on the right end.

## SPRING.

BY A. HAIGHT CHASE.  
Come, beauteous Spring, with birds that sing,  
And beauteous flowers that bloom—  
With balmy air and blossoms fair  
Dispel old Winter's gloom.  
Come with thy sheen of living green,  
And gentle zephyrs soft—  
Thy green leaved trees and light winged bees  
That wing the air aloft;  
Beneath thy shield the heath and field  
Bud forth with life anew—  
The murmuring stream so brightly gleams  
Mid sunset's golden hue.  
Thy balmy breath dissolves in death  
Stern Winter's chilling power—  
The leaf expands beneath thy wand,  
And blooms the beauteous flower.  
Thy genial glow makes streamlets flow  
In gladness through the vale;  
The grass so green is plainly seen,  
And beauteous dews the vale,  
The songster sweet his song repeats  
A song so full of glee;  
Thy sweet and clear—the Spring is here,  
The Spring has charms for me,  
Oh! Spring most fair, with charms so rare,  
We ever love thy way—  
And while we live we'll ever give  
To thee our sweetest lay.

MISCELLANY.  
OF WHAT WOMEN ARE MADE.  
"Of earthly women, the best is a good wife;  
A bad, the bitterest curse of human life."  
Simonides, a poet famous in his generation, who flourished some time ago, tells us, that the gods formed the souls of women out of those seeds and principles which compose several kinds of animals and elements; and that their good and bad dispositions arise in them according as such and such seeds and principles predominate in their constitutions. He says:

"The souls of one kind of women were formed out of those ingredients which compose a scine. A woman of this make is a sloven in her house and a glutton at her table.

A second kind is of the fox, foxy, and has an insight into everything, good or bad; some of this class are virtuous, and some vicious.

A third kind of women were made up of canine particles; these are scolds, always barking and snarling, and live in perpetual clamor.

A fourth kind were made out of the earth. Such are the sluggards, who pass their time in indolence and ignorance, hang over a fire a whole Winter, and apply themselves with alacrity to no kind of business but eating.

The fifth species of females were made out of the sea, and are of variable, uneven tempers, sometimes all storm and tempest, sometimes all calm and sunshine.

The sixth species were made of such ingredients as compose a jack or beast of burden; these are naturally stolid and obstinate, but, upon the husband exerting his authority, will live upon hard fare, and do everything to please him.

The cat furnished materials for a seventh species of woman, who are of melancholy, froward, unamiable nature, and so repugnant to the offers of love that they fly in the face of their husband when he approaches them with conjugal endearments. This species of woman are likewise subject to little thefts, cheats, and pilferings.

The eighth species of female were taken out of the ape. These are such as are both ugly and ill-natured, who have nothing beautiful in themselves, and endeavor to detract from or ridicule everything which appears so in others.

The ninth and last species of woman were made out of the bee; and happy is the man who gets such a one for his wife. She is altogether faultless and unblameable. Her family flourishes and improves by her good management. She loves her husband and is beloved by him. She brings him a race of beautiful and virtuous children. She distinguishes herself among her sex. She never sits among the loose tribe of women, nor passes her time with them in wanton discourses. She is full of virtue and prudence, and is the best wife that Jupiter can bestow on man."

AN IDEA.  
TRUE AND BEAUTIFUL.  
"I cannot believe that the earth is man's abiding place. It cannot be that our life is cast up by the ocean of eternity to float a moment upon its waves and sink into nothingness! Else why is it that the aspirations which leap like angels, from the temple of our hearts, are forever wandering about unsatisfied? Why is it that the rainbow and the cloud come over us with a beauty that is not of us, then pass off and leave us to muse upon their faded loveliness? Why is it that the stars who hold their festival around the midnight throne are set above the grasp of our limited faculties, forever mocking us with their unapproachable glory? And, finally, why is it that forms of human beauty are presented to our view, and then taken from us, leaving the thousand streams of our affections to flow back in Alpine torrents upon our heart? We are born for a higher destiny than that of earth; there is a realm where rainbows never fade; where the stars will out before us, like islets that slumber on the ocean; and where the beings that pass before us like shadows, will stay in our presence forever!—[Butler.

## LAW.

Upwards of eighty years ago, there was in the town of Hatherlight, in the county of Devon, an inn known by the name of the Client's arms. There was a swinging sign-board, on one side of which was a man, stripped of his coat and waistcoat, exclaiming, "I've been to law and have lost." And on the other side of this sign-board was painted a man stark naked, crying out, "Oh! what shall I do? I have been to law and have won." The origin was this: Two men had a dispute about a little spot of land, respecting which they could not agree. Recourse was had to legal proceedings, which ended in a verdict of a jury. The man against whom the verdict was given could not pay the costs, and the winner had to pay all his own. In fact, the loser was stripped of all his property. The victor was obliged to sell his little estate; then took an inn, and set up the above, mentioned sign as a warning to others.—Some of the descendants are now living, whom we reckon have no fondness for law.

PHYSICAL RECREATION.  
An Italian gentleman, who recently made the tour of the United States, said, on his return, that he would not live there to be owner of them, adding—"What an unhappy people, if their faces express their feelings! I never saw a man in the street that didn't seem unhappy, and walked as if driven; nor scarcely a woman in his house without a care-worn and fitful air."

A little exaggeration is one of the privileges accorded to travellers from time immemorial; but there is, nevertheless, more of truth in the above description of the Americans, as a people, than we are at all times willing to admit. Perpetually abiding in business, with our mental faculties constantly on the stretch; with notes to meet; moneys to collect, and projects to carry out, we exhaust the powers of life by overstraining them, and only think of relaxation when it becomes too late to reap much benefit from the change. The freest nation in the world, we are yet the most fettered. Bending all our energies to the one object of making money, we reject salutary recreation as interfering with more important duties, and toil on, tortured by anxieties of our own creating. Though too frequently troubled with dyspepsia in some one or other of its protean forms, and otherwise nervous, excitable and restless, we never seek that repose and relaxation which nature demands, until the worn out physical structure is incapable of renovation, and premature old age admonishes us of the folly we have committed in the thoughtless disregard of those natural laws, the observance of which is absolutely essential to health and longevity.

WHY SATAN NEVER DISTURBS A WOMAN.  
Mohammedans relate the following story as an authentic and veritable piece of tradition, illustrative of the fact that the Devil himself has duties to perform in the world, and that all things would go wrong if he were idle and neglected them:

"In the days of Mohammed there was an Arab who had a very pretty wife. The Devil formed himself into so exact and accurate likeness of her husband that she could not for the life of her tell which of the two was her husband. Both claimed her, that is, the real husband and the Devil in his likeness. The case excited much interest in the neighborhood, but no solution of the difficulty could be obtained. At length the case was brought before his Majesty, the Prophet. Mohammed, after a little reflection, held up a certain earthen pot in his hand, with a spout like a teapot, and said to them both, "Now, whichever is the real husband will enter this vessel by the spout and thus establish his claim to the woman." The Devil, as having more capacity in that way than the sturdy Arab of real flesh and bones, entered at once into the pot as suggested. The moment he entered Mohammed closed the top of the spout and kept him shut in. But by the time Mohammed had kept him shut up for a few days, it was ascertained that the world was getting wrong in all its machinery.—Mohammed was therefore constrained to let the Devil out from his confinement to take his necessary place in the management of the affairs of the world. But before restoring him to his liberty again Mohammed extorted a solemn promise from him that he would never trouble the "fair sex" any more, but confine himself to what he could do among the "male sex." And this is the reason why Satan never disturbs a woman.

HIGH SENSE OF HONOR.—An English nobleman ran away with a married woman, and after she was divorced from her husband married her. Sometime having elapsed, his lordship was surprised at not receiving a challenge from her former husband, and being anxious to make reparation, sent the following offer of satisfaction: "Sir: Having done you the greatest injury that one man can do another, I think it incumbent upon me to offer you the satisfaction which one gentleman owes to another in such circumstances." The husband replied: "My Lord, in taking off my hands a woman who has proved herself a wretch, you have done me the greatest favor that one man can do another, and I think it incumbent upon me to offer you the acknowledgments which one gentleman owes to another in such circumstances."

## POLITICAL.

COL. FREMONT AND THE PRESIDENCY.  
Col. Fremont has addressed a letter to Mr. Robinson, the "Free State" Governor of Kansas. The Colonel sympathizes warmly with the Governor in his efforts to "maintain the freedom of Kansas," and promises to do whatever lies in his power to sustain the cause with which Mr. Robinson's name is identified. He says the state of affairs in Kansas will require great firmness on the part of the Governor, as the President, supported by the army, will probably recognize the government which is opposed to the Free State movement, and concludes by referring to the nomination of his own name in connection with the Presidency. "This has been done, he thinks, by the partiality of friends who think of him more flattering than he does of himself.

Fremont, like Benton, his father-in-law, may flatter the free-soilers, with the hope that "thrift may follow fawning," but neither of these Southern traitors, we predict, will reach the goal of their ambition through the disgraceful means adopted.

HENRY CLAY, NOT A KNOW-NOTHING.  
The following letter from Henry Clay, who was the life and soul of the great Whig party of this country, shows that he could not have been a Know Nothing if he had lived to see the rise of the new "Order" upon the ruins of his old party. Mr. Clay, it will be seen, believed that a man's religious belief had nothing to do with his patriotism. The letter which follows was addressed to Gardner Jones, president of the University of Notre Dame du Lac, near South Bend, Indiana:

WASHINGTON, March 23, 1850.  
Dear Sir: I have received and attentively perused the letter which, at the instance of the president and faculty of the University of the Notre Dame du Lac, you addressed to me the 4th inst. In that letter they have done me the honor to express their approbation of a speech of mine in the Senate of the United States, the object of which was to heal all differences, and amicably to adjust all controversies, arising out of the existence of slavery in the U. S. States. Such testimony, proceeding from a highly respectable body of gentlemen, retired from the world, and regarding justly the interests which belong to another and future state of existence as paramount to all others, affords me an inexpressible degree of satisfaction.

Nor is this at all diminished by the fact, that we happen to profess different religious creeds; for I have never believed that of "the Catholic was anti-American and hostile to civil and religious liberty. On the contrary, I have with great pleasure, and with sincere conviction, on several public occasions, borne testimony to my perfect persuasion that Catholics were as much devoted to civil liberty, and as much animated by patriotism, as those who belong to the Protestant creed.

I am not surprised that, in the seclusion of those whom you represent, great solicitude should be felt for the safety and preservation of that Union which is our surest guarantee of peace, order, liberty, and public happiness. I hope and believe that dangers which appeared to threaten it have diminished; but there is still great occasion for the exercise of a spirit of concord, mutual concession, and harmony.

I request you to present to the president and faculty assurances of my respectful acknowledgments, and accept yourself those of your respectful and obedient servant,  
H. CLAY.

THE PROSPECT.  
The New York Journal of Commerce, a neutral paper, alluding to the great accessions to the democratic party, as evidence in the recent elections in the North and South, uses the following language:

"The immense gains of the Democrats in our large cities and towns, and in those States where elections have been held this Spring, although opposed by a combination of the Know-Nothings, Republicans, and Abolitionists, show very clearly which way the wind blows. A year ago, in each of the States alluded to, viz: New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Connecticut—the Democrats were defeated by an overwhelming majority. This year the combination against them has been more extensive and complete than before, yet in each case they press very closely upon the heels of their opponents. Until last year, there had long been an Abolition or Free-soil party, which neither sided with the Democrats nor with the Whigs. But, at the last two elections, they have fraternized lovingly with the other opponents of Democracy; and the consequence is, that although the Democrats, in each of the States mentioned, polled a vote nearly, if not quite, unprecedented, they are still slightly in a minority. But they now see the full strength of the enemy, and the amount of work to be done. All that remains is to do it. And the opportunity is near."

David Wilmot, of provisos notoriety, has turned up again. He comes out in a letter requesting the friends of freedom in Pennsylvania to meet in Pittsburg (dark place, that Pittsburg) on the 26th of June next to nominate a Nigger Worshipping State ticket.