# The North Carolina Whig.

A. C. WILLIAMSON, {Editor.} "Be true to God, to your Country, and to your Duty." T. J. HOLTON, {Publisher.}

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## Miscellaneous.

### McDonald's Rescue.

BY H. C. CHIPMAN.

The heavy tread of a horse echoed out up on the air, as a solitary horseman rode along the banks of the Santee river, and took his way in the direction of the firm house of Elihu Hunter. He was about twenty-five years of age, and was dressed in the uniform of Marion's men. He rode a tall coal black steed, and was completely armed for offensive or defensive operations.

He had evidently been belated, and was now wishing to make up for lost time, for his noble steed was urged forward at a rapid gallop, and his eye wandered anxiously and warily around him. Suddenly a bright red light broke through the forest and far down the stream he saw the lurid sparks ascend into the air, and beheld a red glow paroted upon the cloud, by the conflagration below. Hastily raising in his stirrups, he gazed for an instant upon the scene, and then exclaimed:—

"My God! it is the house of Hunter!—Away! away!"

He struck his spurs deep into the side of his horse, who giving a wild snort, sped like an arrow from a powerful bow through the wilds of the forest.

The red flames of the fire cast an unearthly glare upon the surrounding objects, and revealed with fearful distinctness the features of a strong man who had emerged from the depth of the wood and stood leaning upon his rifle, gazing at the glowing embers. His lips quivered with emotion, and a tear started involuntarily to his eye—but brushing aside this evidence of his weakness if weakness it may be called, he strolled to where the form of a female lay stretched upon the earth, and stooping down he scrutinized with one deep long glance, those pallid features and parted the matted locks from her gory brow, where the fatal missile had forced its entrance and deprived her of life; and then raising himself to his fullest height, he grasped his rifle with a spasmodic clutch, and breathed forth in fervid tones the single word "Vengeance."

And turning around, was about leaving the spot, as the sound of a horse's gallop fell upon his ear.

"Poor McDonald!" he muttered; "he comes but to find his affianced bride's house in ruins and her in the hands of his most implacable foe."

The rush of the steed was heard, the underwood parted in twain, and with a bound a horseman halted in front of the burning mansion, and glanced with an unearthly stare around him.

It was McDonald! the affianced of Marion Hunter!

His lofty brow was as pallid as that of the dead female that lay beneath his horse's hoof, and his cheek as pale as the white rose of Sharon, while every limb of the strong man trembled like an aspen leaf, and his bosom heaved almost to bursting with the force of his emotion, as he shouted forth in the agony of his heart—

"My Marion! my Marion! Where art thou!"

"Go seek the enemy of our land, that human demon of Tarleton's, Ellerslie, and you will find her who you seek," and the hunter strode to his side.

"Earlie, my friend, how long since this deed happened?"

"Not an hour since."

"Then, by the souls of my forefathers, she shall yet be mine!" and turning his steed, he dashed rapidly from the spot, followed by the hunter, after taking one lingering look at the scene of ruin left behind him.

* * * * * *

The beams of the morning sun gilded the tree tops and glanced redly from hill to hall, as Captain Ellerslie and his party issued from the black forests and entered upon the more open country around it. In the centre of the group rode the prisoners and the eye of the officer often rested with gloating admiration upon the fair features of the defenceless Marion, as she silently and with downcast eyes rode along with a sturdy trooper upon each side, to prevent any sudden resolution she might form to escape. The living long night the party had travelled on with unwearied vigilance, and now that the terror of the forest, known as the haunt of Marion and his men, were passed, the Captain resolved to halt to procure some refreshments and from the ardent glances he had so often cast upon her, Marion was led to believe he meditated some act of violence towards her, and secretly resolved, if any opportunity presented, to escape.

The party halted before the gate at a large Tory farm house, and one of the men dismounted—threw it open, and the cavalcade entered the enclosure one after another; the space not being wide enough to admit of more than one going in at a time. Their long ride had so wearied the men that they hurried in as fast as possible; and by checking the impatience of her horse, Marion remained outside until all but her two guards had passed in. One of those then advanced before her, bidding the other to remain behind her, but as he left her side, quick as thought she turned the head of her steed, and applying her whip to the flanks of the spirited animal, he sprang off in the direction of the black forest. A deep curse broke from the lips of the remaining guard as he wheeled his steed to follow her, and it drew the attention of those inside, among whom was Ellerslie.

"Mount, men, and follow her! a thousand dollars to the one who secures her alive!" he shouted in phrenzied tones of madness as he hastily mounted his own steed to pursue.

"Gallant Marion!—God bless you for a noble girl! and I'll defy the villains to find you again. On, on, girl! There is hope before, and worse than death behind;" and the tears of heartfelt joy poured over the cheek of Hunter, as he gazed upon the exciting scene.

"Take that old gray-headed dog to the first tree, and hang him upon the first limb!" wrathfully cried Ellerslie, as he spurred his horse through the gate, and pushed him forward in quick pursuit.

Half a dozen men sprang forward to obey, and the old man was released from his horse but so long had his limbs been confined in one position, that he was unable to walk and his captors, brutally seizing him by the gray hairs of his head, dragged him forward to an oak tree which grew in the yard, and procuring a rope, prepared to carry into execution the last diabolical order of the bloody Ellerslie.

In the meantime the steed which bore the flying Marion, swept rapidly onward for the forest, and soon distanced all save the one upon which was mounted Ellerslie himself, and he soon saw that the speed of his horse was such that she must inevitably be overtaken; yet she plied the whip, and they flew like the wind toward the gloomy wood that loomed up before them. But a hundred yards intervened, when, with a demoniacal laugh he dashed up beside her, and seizing hold of her bridle rein, by a powerful effort checked the gait of her horse, and by the time they reached the edge of the black forest, both riders came to a halt, and throwing his left arm around her, he attempted to draw her to him.

The excitement of the flight had brought the warm blood to her cheek, but the moment he offered, sent it rushing back, and for a moment she became as pale as marble; then recovering herself, sent one wild, heart-rending shriek through the surrounding wood, and vainly endeavored to shake off his hold.

But the cry of despair which then went up from the lips of her red innocence was heard by ears that thrilled with a pang of mortal agony, as it vibrated upon his senses; and tearing himself from his companions, Hunter essayed to mount the wall and fly to the rescue of his daughter. But he was rudely held back by the arms of iron, and his pleadings fell as upon hearts of marble, until throwing himself upon the earth, the old man groaned in anguish, heaping maledictions upon the destroyer of happiness and innocence.

But another beside her father heard that fearful shriek, as it went echoing along the forest; and oh, the thrill of horror that took possession of his bosom in that last scream of despair! The stern flow in drops from the bits of Selim, and as if conscious of the urgency of the occasion, he flew rather than ran through the wood until both he and his rider seemed like spirits flying through air, rather than occupants of earth. From the top of a near stone McDonald gazed down the road and beheld Marion struggling in the arms of Ellerslie, who has dismounted, and is endeavoring to drag her from her steed. He raises aloft in his stirrups—his broad claymore glitters in the rays of the sun—and his powerful voice rings out like a thunder peal upon the morning air, as he shouts aloud his well known war cry upon the breeze—

"*Death to the Tories! Marion, I come!*"

The countenance of Ellerslie paled as he heard the terrible sound, and releasing the form of Marion, he sprang to his feet; but when he rose in his stirrups his head was close to the chin by a descending blow from McDonald's claymore and he sank lifeless to the earth. Seizing hold of the reins of Marion's palfrey, he turned him towards the farm house, and galloped hastily onward.

"Do not go there—a hundred red dragoons are resting in the yard."

"Their doom is sealed—listen!" and as he spoke a loud volley rang forth upon the blast and the thick volumes of smoke curled up above the roof of the house, and a loud crash of arms resounded through the yard. Marion fixed an enquiring glance upon her lover, who replied by simply saying—

"Tis Marion and his men!"

Of the hundred men that went forth with Ellerslie not one escaped; and from the terror with which their fate inspired the Tories, the battle of that morning was called by them "McDonald's Rescue."

### KOSSUTH, &c.

#### KOSSUTH IN HIS TRUE COLORS.

ESTERHAZY AND BATTHYANY ON KOSSUTH

Late numbers of the London Times contain letters from Prince Paul Esterhazy and Count Casimir Batthyany relative to the Hungarian revolution, and the character and conduct of Kossuth, then and subsequently. Esterhazy was a prominent member of the Hungarian cabinet, and, like Casimir Batthyany, a warm advocate of the popular cause, against the domination of Austria. Both have an evident right to speak with authority on this subject, and their strong monarchical principles, though not calculated to commend them to the admiration of republicans, form no sufficient reason for discrediting their allegations or under estimating their judgment on the main point at issue. One thing, indeed, gives additional weight to their letters, and that is, that they display material differences in reference to certain questions connected with past events in Hungary, and thus furnish an anticipatory refutation of any allegation of complicity that may be made against them. The letters are too long for publication entire, and we therefore select those portions which refer directly to Kossuth, premising that in thus putting our readers in possession of circumstances and opinions which at least possess historical interest, we do not commit ourselves favorably or unfavorably in respect to the judgment they involve.

Esterhazy refers thus to Kossuth:

"There were at the head of several departments, as I mentioned before, men of trustworthy character, who labored under no illusion as to the political tendency and the clandestine plans of their colleague, and endeavored, although unsuccessful, to counteract them.

"I may dispense with pointing him out. His name is but too much heard in England, where the would be friends of Hungary have prepared for him a reception, showing a striking contrast to the evidence of high treason, and to the calamities and misfortune which, by subversive schemes, he brought on his country, as well as to the state in which he left it at the moment of his flight.

"It is evident that two ways were open to the pursuit of those patriotic views which he boasted of. One of them was the path of legality, in devoting his undeniable ability to the task of effacing the means employed in exorting concessions from the crown.

"But the secret motive which guided him, his vanity, and the party to which he was devoted, drove him into the opposite path and following this direction he brought on the catastrophes of which his country has been the theatre, and was himself led to acts of treason, with their just consequences.—This result of the proceedings, of which he was at once the moving power and the instrument, the frequent difference between his words and his deeds, and his reluctance to act manfully, in case of need, by courageously exposing his life, have now, I think blinded out among the majority of the nation the phantasmagoria of his unpropitious influence. To that the last blow was given, when, seeing the end of his ephemeral power fast approaching, he resorted to the republican utopias, more intended, I apprehend, for exportation to foreign markets, than for home consumption in our own, as I can hardly think him capable of such an egregious mistake as really to indulge in the hope of making such a scheme palpitate to a population whose genius, traditional history, feelings and habits, are so eminently monarchical and aristocratic."

Batthyany's letter controverts some of Esterhazy's remarks, especially in reference to the policy of the Hungarian Cabinet, in 1848. This portion is succeeded by the following emphatic condemnation of the conduct of Kossuth in Hungary. It may be added that Batthyany, the writer, played a prominent part in the revolution, and long shared Kossuth's exile in Kutaya:

"It cannot be denied that there was a faction in the country, and even in the Diet, that was daily increasing in numbers, and that Kossuth was weak enough to countenance, whose object was to keep up a perpetual agitation, not for the purposes of maintaining the laws and liberties of the country, but with the view of hurrying the country into revolution. This faction was kept down by Louis Batthyany so long as he was able to maintain his position. It, without getting precisely the upper hand, this faction finally succeeded in spreading terror in the ranks of all other parties, and forcing the country into extreme measures, it was merely because it was enabled to gain a firm footing through the policy pursued by the Austrian Ministers. The urgent necessity of placing Hungary in a state of defence against the machinations of the Austrian Cabinet, served as a good pretext to cloak the real designs of the faction.

"But when the underhand practices that had been constantly carried on could no longer be concealed; when unexpected blows were dealt in the dark, with the intention of wearing Hungary out, and exhausting her strength and patience in fruitless struggles, then, it was that Kossuth's impetuous and reckless temper, and the inherent weakness of his character and laxity of principle, predominated over his better feelings. Ambition and a hankering after notoriety, and the suppleness with which he always yielded to the most pressing and least scrupulous, placed him first in contradiction with himself, and then involved him—and it may be said, also, the other ministers—in an inconsistent policy, and finally led him to the self willed and arbitrary measures which accelerated the fall of the Batthyany ministry. It is unnecessary to charge a man with more failings and follies, than he has been guilty of. Kossuth has already enough to answer for before the tribunal of public opinion respecting his political conduct, which was unquestionably the main cause of the ruin and downfall of his country.

"Deficient in the knowledge of men and things, in the steadfast bearing, good judgment, and comprehensive mind of a statesman, and without the firm hand of a ruler; setting aside all sound calculation, while he played a game of chance, and staked the fate of the nation on the cast of a die—encountering danger with hair brained temerity when distant, but shrinking from it when near—elated and overbearing in prosperity, and utterly prostrate in adversity—wanting that strength and intrepidity of character that alone commands homage and obedience from others, while he suffered himself to be made the tool of every intriguer he came in connection with—mistaking his manifold accomplishments and natural genius for an aptitude to govern a country in times of trouble, and acting, in the flights of fancy, no bounds to the scope of his ambition—Kossuth hurried away the nation into a course of the most impolitic measures, and grasped the highest power in the realm by dubious means; but, when scarcely in possession of it, suffered it to be wrested from his hands by the man whom he had himself most injudiciously raised to a high station, and against whom, although he had received repeated warnings, as well as proofs, of his treachery and worthlessness, he never dared openly and boldly to proceed—by the man whom he had hoped to emasculate, while he crouched beneath him in abject fear, but by whom he was finally outwitted.

"The generous sympathy of the English nation cannot be quashed by being told that Austria was the benefactor of Hungary, while the Hungarian Diet was a factious assembly, and the Hungarian Ministers a set of rebels. In doing honor to Kossuth, the English people have shown their sympathy for the cause of an unfortunate country that has been bereaved of its chartered rights and liberties, and in fomenting this sympathy, Kossuth has been obliged to pay a tribute to the feeling of legality that animates even the humblest classes in England, by the eschewing in his speeches the demagogical rant in which he had indulged only a week before at Marseilles. The applause of the English people was not given to the revolutionary character of the man, but to the able manner in which he brought the grievances of his country before them.

"Meanwhile, my own decided opinion on the subject is this—that Kossuth has not the least right to set himself up as the sole and exclusive representative of his country—not the least right to resume the title of Governor and the functions of dictator, as he does in his address from Bussa to the citizens of the United States; and that it is a most unwarrantable, as well as a most illogical proceeding on his part to contend, as he does in the same document, that the Hungarian nation could not legally enter into any engagements or adopt any measure that would be incompatible with the act by which he was raised to the dignity of governor, it being obvious, even if he had not resigned this dignity, that when the nation was reconstituted on its former constitutional basis, its legal representatives in Diet assembled would have the right to act in whatever way they might deem the most conducive to the welfare of the country. I am also of opinion that, so far from following a sound policy in wishing, as he does, to remodel the reformed constitution of 1848, and engraft on it principles of republicanism and unbesvened democracy—principles which are at variance with our national laws and institutions, as well as with the manners, customs, and genius of the people—he would have acted more wisely, and rendered a more essential service to his country, if after his liberation from the thraldom of detention he had appeared before the world in the simple character of a private individual.

"The conspicuous part which he took in the affairs of his country, and his subsequent misfortunes, would have secured him general respect, while the modesty of his demeanor, by effacing from the minds of his countrymen the recollection of the faults and errors he committed, and through which Hungary has been brought to her present state of misery and servitude would have given him a precedence by courtesy among his companions in exile, and placed him in a position to receive that useful advice and assistance which they would have gladly offered him, for the purpose of hereafter repairing, by a course of sound and moderate policy, the injuries inflicted on the lands of their birth.—But instead of acting in this manner, he has set himself up as the dictator of his country men. It is, therefore the sacred duty of those who, although far from wishing to fetter his activity, are not disposed to admit his claims, publicly to protest against his proceedings. Without dwelling any longer on the weighty motives for caution which may be deduced from his past career, I will merely observe that his pretensions to be still regarded as governor is the more barefaced from the circumstances attending his resignation.

"The circumstances are these: He was summoned by Georgey and three members of the ministry to resign. He instantly complied, and resigned the governorship without convening the Council of State; that he was bound by law to consult on every important occasion. He resigned without intimating his intention of doing so to the other three ministers, (of whom I was one,) and who were, consequently, quite unaware of the fact. He did not resign his authority into the hands of the ministers—as under such circumstances he was bound to do—but into the hands of Georgey. He even invested Georgey with a power and authority with which he had not been invested himself—viz: the dictatorship. He delegated a power which he only held himself personally, and, in fact, provisionally, by a direct mandate of the Diet. He resigned in the name of the ministry, which he had no right whatever to do.

"Although it may be safely affirmed that he was in a state of moral and physical coercion when he gave in his resignation, it must be borne in mind that he voluntarily confirmed his act when he was free from all restraint and could never be persuaded to resume his abandoned power, neither at Logos, in the midst of Gen. Bem's army, nor subsequently in Mehadia, when Bem urgently requested him to do so, and try the last chance that remained of success; to which request he again returned a negative answer in writing. By thus acting he abandoned Hungary to her fate, and exposed all those who had taken a part in the war to the vengeance of Austria.

"He confirmed his avowed intention of retiring into private life, by crossing the frontier and entering the Turkish dominions before the capitulation of Vilagos could possibly be known to him, and while there were still fortresses and armies in Hungary, by which the national cause could have been sustained. In his letter of refusal to General Bem, he, in fact, suggested the expediency of calling together some eminent men, in order to form a provisional government. On his arrival at Widdin, he again publicly declared (in a letter since published) his resolution of retiring into private life—a resolution which for a short time he acted upon."

## Oregon.

### CIRCULAR LETTER OF HON. JOSEPH LANE.

The West is furnishing quite a large emigration to Oregon, the number last season being in the neighborhood of ten thousand. At the last accounts most of the emigrants had arrived for the year, and the families had suffered but little from sickness, though many had lost property from Indian thefts, and a few lives had been taken by the savages.

Oregon is destined to become an important State in the Union, and the tide of emigration thither will be annually increased. Those who have been longest in the Territory write the most flattering letters of their success, and all concur in representing it a healthy, productive, and growing country. For the information of such as are looking for a still further West, we lay before them the recent circular of Hon. Joseph Lane, congressional delegate from Oregon, in reference to the settlement, soil and climate of Oregon Territory. The information given is just the thing wanted.—Scioto Gazette.

WASHINGTON Jan. 1, 1852.

The great number of letters I am constantly receiving, making inquiries in reference to the Territory of Oregon, has induced me to embody in the form of a circular such information as is usually desired, that I may thus be enabled to furnish it more promptly and more in detail than a due attention to my other public duties would allow me, were I to endeavor to give a written answer to each. I hope this course will not be considered discourteous to my correspondents; for, in pursuing it, I will more effectually and satisfactorily serve them, which is my chief desire.

Oregon is a mountainous country, interspersed with many extensive, rich, and beautiful valleys, watered by cool, pure streams, having their sources among its snow-clad mountains. It is exceedingly healthy; no country is more so. The atmosphere is pure and the climate delightful, especially during the summer. From April to November there is but little rain, but a cool gentle breeze blows almost perpetually from the north. The winters are rainy, but mild; for during this season warm south winds constantly prevail.

The country is well watered, and the soil very fertile, and well adapted to the growth of all the small grains, grasses, potatoes, and other culinary vegetables—all yielding most abundantly, except Indian corn, which is not regarded as a successful crop. Many of the hills and mountains are covered with inexhaustible forests of fine timber, generally fir and cedar. The forests frequently skirt the valleys and streams.

As is well known, the Columbia is the only great river on the Pacific slope, and stretches from the seacoast to the Rocky mountains. From its mouth to the Cascades, a distance of about one hundred and fifty miles, there is an uninterrupted navigation for vessels of the largest size.

The Willamette empties into the Columbia about ninety miles from its mouth. This river is also navigable for the largest vessels to Portland fifteen miles from its mouth, and many have ascended as high as Multnomah, seven miles further.

At the risk of some little repetition, it may not be deemed improper or unnecessary to give a more detailed and minute description of the valley of this and some of the other streams of Oregon.

Willamette valley is bounded by the Coast mountains on the west, and the Cascade range on the east. The soil is excellent, and is not surpassed, if equalled, by any portion of the continent in its adaptation to the growth of wheat, rye, and oats. Potatoes are produced in great abundance, and are of a superior quality; while wheat is invariably a certain crop, subject to none of the diseases and uncertainties peculiar to it in the States; it matures slowly, hence the grain is always full and plump, and the straw unusually solid and elastic, and not subject to fall. In consequence of the cool dry summers, and the entire absence of rain during the harvest season, the farmer is enabled to gather in his grain without waste.

This valley is about one hundred and fifty miles in length, and thirty five in breadth, and is sparsely settled throughout its whole extent. Many fine locations are yet unoccupied, which will richly repay the labor of the thrifty husbandman. Natural meadows, as yet untouched by the hand of cultivation, afford abundant and rich pasturage for immense herds of cattle. The valley is mostly prairie, skirted by beautiful groves of timber, while through its centre runs the Willamette river.

The Umpqua valley is distant from the Willamette about twelve miles, and is separated from it by the Calapooe mountain. It is about ninety miles in length, and varies from five to thirty five miles in width. It is made up of a succession of hills and dales, furnishes but little timber, yet abounds in a natural luxuriant growth of the richest grass.

North and South Umpqua rivers run thro' this valley, and form a junction about forty miles from the bay of the same name. The entrance to this bay is found to be practicable, as many sloops and steamers have crossed the bar at its mouth, finding from three to three and a half fathoms of water upon it, without the aid of pilots, buoys, or light houses. A few slight accidents, however, have occurred for the want of such improvements. A port of entry has been established here, and appropriations have been made for a lighthouses and fog signals.

This bay is destined to be an important point to the southern portion of Oregon. Here will be the outlet of the produce of the Umpqua valley; and here, consequently, will be its commercial city. Many pack trains are already employed in the transportation of goods and provisions from this point to the "gold diggings" on Rogue, Chasta, and Scott rivers.

Rogue river valley, which takes its name from the river which passes through it, is about seventy miles by the main travelled route from the Umpqua. The valley is watered by never-failing streams; the soil is generally good, and it is skirted and interspersed with groves of fine timber. As it borders upon a rich gold region, it must eventually become densely populated. As yet, however, it contains no white settlement, but is occupied by the Rogue river Indians, who have rendered it the seat of much trouble and suffering from their depredations.

There is no portion of the Territory, and indeed I may almost add of the world, better adapted to grazing than this valley. In extent it is about fifty by thirty miles. Surrounded by mountains, the eye seldom rests upon a more beautiful, picturesque, and romantic spot. It extends to within a few miles of the boundary between Oregon and California. These valleys all lie west of the Cascade mountains, and south of Columbia.

There are also many small valleys, rich and fertile, in this part of the Territory, affording good inducements to settlers, and which no doubt will be speedily occupied as soon as suitable protection can be extended over them by the government.

A very interesting portion of Oregon lies north of the Columbia, and is being rapidly settled. The Cowlitz, which rises in the Cascade mountains, north of the Columbia, runs through a large tract of fine, arable land, entering the Columbia some forty or fifty miles from its mouth.

A French settlement of many years' growth commences near this river, about thirty miles from its mouth, and now embrace some large and valuable farms. Americans also have, within the last six years, settled between it and the Cahales, and are doing well. The country is level and fertile, and beautifully interspersed with prairies and timbers.

The valley of the Cahales is also fertile, and well adapted to cultivation. Between it and Puget Sound the country is level and well timbered, with occasional small prairies. This Sound is one of the safest and best harbors in the world. It affords fine ship navigation into an important part of the Territory. Surrounded by a large district of country, rich in soil, with immense forests of the finest timber in the world, and combining many advantages, agricultural and commercial, it is destined to be, at no distant day, one of the most important points on the Pacific coast. A low pass in the Cascade mountains offers a route for a good road from the Sound to Fort Wallawalla, on the Columbia. Such a road would be important for military purposes, and would also be a great saving of distance and time to emigrants going to the Cahales river, Puget's Sound, or to any other point of Columbia. At present emigrants are compelled to take the road across the Cascade mountains, south of Columbia, to Oregon city, from whence it is as far, by a road almost impassable, to Puget Sound as it would be from Wallawalla by the road suggested.

There are also east of the Cascade range, north and south of the Columbia, now in possession of the Indians, large districts of country finely adapted to grazing, with occasional good tracts of farming land, which will no doubt ere long be occupied by the whites.

Oregon City is situated at the Great Falls of the Willamette. Steamboats run daily from this place to Portland, and those of a small class also run daily up the river above the Falls, from thirty to fifty miles, and in some instances recently, as I am informed, they have even gone up one hundred and fifty miles. A small judicious expenditure would render the river constantly navigable for such boats that distance.

The population of Oregon, including the immigration of the last season, is probably twenty thousand. The immigration is rapidly increasing, owing not only to the natural advantages of the country, but to the liberal provisions made for actual settlers by a late law of Congress. By that law liberal donations of land are made to all who will settle upon them previous to the first day of December, 1853; to a single man one hundred and sixty acres, and to a married man three hundred and twenty—one half in his own right, and the other half to his wife in her own right, upon condition that they will live upon and cultivate it for four years.

The population is of a substantial character, much better than is usually found in new countries. The people are enterprising, industrious, frugal, and orderly. Many of the early settlers have large and well-cultivated farms; indeed agriculture everywhere in the Territory may be said to be in a flourishing condition, remarkably so for a new country. California and the Sandwich Islands afford markets and good prices for all our surplus products, and will undoubtedly for years to come.

Many of the various religious denominations have established churches in the Territory, to some one of which the majority of the settlers belong. Great interest has also been manifested by the people in the establishment of good schools, and admirably have they succeeded in their laudable efforts. The Institute at Salem, under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Academy of Tualatin Plains, under the control of the Presbyterians, are excellent and flourishing institutions. There are also two female institutes in Oregon City. Portland, Lafayette, and other small towns have good schools. Indeed, they are common in the country wherever the population will justify them.—A grant of land was made by the last Congress for the endowment of a university, the site of which has been fixed by the territorial legislature at Marysville.

The Indians immediately bordering on or near the settlements are perfectly friendly and well disposed. Settlers have nothing to fear from them. Those upon Rogue river are troublesome to those passing through their country, and will probably continue so until a garrison shall be established to overawe and keep them in subjection. This I hope will soon be done; for the depredations upon travellers have already caused much trouble and suffering. They are upon the great thoroughfare from Oregon to California; a fork of which leads to Fort Hall, being the road frequently travelled by emigrants from that point to Oregon.

Emigrants have for the past year suffered considerably from the Snake Indians, who infested the great road west of Fort Hall, and who are scattered over a large extent of territory through which the road passes. The establishment of a garrison in their country is essentially necessary to the maintenance of peace, and the protection of the lives and property of persons passing to and from Oregon. A number of emigrants have, during the past season been murdered by the Indians, and many of their animals and other property stolen from them. Emigrants should exercise great care and prudence in passing through the district of country, and they should remember that it is essential to their safety, upon all parts of this road, that in no case should they suffer themselves to be taken by surprise, or the least advantage had of them by the Indians; for the least carelessness or want of proper precaution often seriously endangers the safety not only of their property, but their lives.

Those who contemplate emigrating to Oregon should be ready to leave St. Joseph, on the Missouri river, with a proper outfit, by the first day of May; ox teams much to be preferred. Provisions for the trip, and sufficient blankets for the bedding, with such tools as are necessary to repair a wagon, should be taken. Every man should take his gun and plenty of ammunition. The journey is a long and tedious one, and all who undertake it must expect to endure fatigue, privations, and hardships. I would advise every person, at least every company, to procure Palmer's Emigrant's Guide. It correctly lays down the fords across the streams, the camping grounds and also the places where grass, wood, and water can be found. No article not necessary for the journey should be taken, as there is great danger of overloading and breaking down the teams.

Dry goods, groceries, furniture, and farming utensils of all kinds are abundant in Oregon, and no one should think of taking such things with them. It must not, however, be supposed that no inconveniences are to be experienced by emigrants after they arrive there. These are always incident to the settlement of new countries, especially for the first year, but they are fewer in Oregon than are usual in the settling of a new territory.

JOSEPH LANE.

### MISSISSIPPI SENATOR.

The New Orleans Bulletin says that the Senate of the State of Mississippi has refused to join the House of Representatives in electing a United States Senator. The reason is that in the House there is an overwhelming majority of Union men, who can control the election, whilst the Secessionists have a preponderance in the Senate, in consequence of a majority of its members having been elected in 1849, upon questions that had no reference to the great issue which was made at the election in November last. This does not accord very well with their professions of being at all times ready to submit to the expressed will of the people.

From the National Intelligencer.

### COAL FIELDS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The many works recently published on the subject of coal have made the world familiar with its value as a mineral fuel. Yet until lately very little was known of the local ties in which it was found, and still less of the many uses to which it might be applied. The vast coal fields west of the Alleghanies were little valued twenty five years since, and the anthracites of Pennsylvania scarcely known. Since that time, however, the modern Briareus, steam, has needed its assistance to keep its hundred hands at work. In the United States it is becoming a vast trade, and the demand, especially for bituminous coal, is continually greater than the supply. Its value to England is well known: the quantity annually produced from her coal fields has been computed to be worth fifty million dollars at the mines, and from seventy five to one hundred millions at the places of consumption; indeed it is to this mineral that she is chiefly indebted for supremacy as a commercial and manufacturing nation. The celebrated Hugh Miller, perhaps the most eminent geologist of Europe at the present day, having visited the district in which the central coal fields of England lie, is struck with its size, compared with the mighty influence it has had on the destines of England. He says: "Its area is only thirty miles long and eight broad!—And yet how many steam engines has it set in motion? How many railway trains has it propelled, and how many millions of tons of iron has it raised to the surface, smelted and hammered?" It is also known that in 1820 only 365 tons of anthracite were mined in Pennsylvania. In 1847, upwards of four millions of tons were brought to market, worth twenty million dollars. During the discussion of the tariff of 1846 one of the Senators of Pennsylvania stated that her coal at that time employed 1,500 ships of 150 tons burden each; thus furnishing a nursery for the training of 6,000 seamen; giving circulation to fifty millions capital, employment to 15,000 miners, and support to a mining population of 70,000 souls, who consumed two millions worth of agricultural products and three and a half millions of merchandise.—But, though these facts are known, we doubt if it be generally known that a coal formation more extensive than that of Central England (as described by Miller) exists in North Carolina, from which have been already raised as fine anthracite as any in Pennsylvania, and better bituminous coal than was ever before exhibited in the New York market; yet such is unquestionably the case. It is no part of our present purpose to congratulate that State on its good fortune in possessing such sources of wealth, or the South on having within its bosom this indispensable requisite to success in the direct intercourse with Europe by steamers, recently projected, or to speak of its inestimable value in the coastwise trade of the entire Southern continent, the trade of the West India Islands, and, above all, the advantage this locality must have over the coal fields of the North during one month at least of the year in which ice obstructs the canals leading from them to tide water. But we do intend to call the public attention to this district as presenting advantages in mining and taking to market the finest bituminous coal at less expense and with greater certainty of profit than any other in the United States.

As we have remarked that little is known of this formation, we take leave to state that though coal was discovered on Deep river, in Chatham county, North Carolina, more than seventy years since, yet it has only been since the improvement in the navigation of that stream that it has been traced for many miles both above and below the point of its discovery. During the autumn of 1850 a company of Northern gentlemen purchased a farm containing about three hundred acres underlaid with coal. The services of Professor Walter R. Johnson, of Washington, were procured by the company to examine and report upon the geological and mineral character of the formation, with a view to future operations, should his report justify them. The character of this gentleman was such as to give every assurance of an able and faithful exposé. He had published an elaborate work on "American Coals," as also on the "Coal Trade of British America," which had received universal commendation, and contributed, no doubt, not, to elevate him to the high position he occupies in the National Institute. In the months of November and December, 1850, he visited the lands of this company; and in order to ascertain whether the usual regularity observed in other coal districts existed there, he extended his observations along the range of the sandstone formation in which the coal is found, and thus explored many miles above and below their possessions, and made an elaborate report on "the situation of the mining district; the geological and mineral character of the formation; the situation of the coal in respect to water level; the position of the seams and their inclination; their thickness; the character of the coal found at different points; particular character of that found on the lands of the company and its vicinity; and the cost of mining and delivering on board the barges and transporting to market; and, finally, the advantages of the locality in respect to climate, health, and means of subsistence for a mining population." We are thus particular in giving the topics embraced in the report, that it may be seen how full is the information it furnishes, and to put at rest all doubts in regard to the value of these coal fields or the certainty of profit to those who may engage in mining them.

A very few extracts from the report will exhibit the opinions entertained by the Professor of the quality of the coal, the thickness of the seams of veins, and the cost of transport to tide water.

Of the bituminous coal he says: "It has upwards of 80 per cent. of carbon and evaporates 10 of steam to one of coal; thus showing its admirable adaptation to steam purposes." "It has the advantage of a brisk and brilliant combustion, rendering it a most desirable fuel for parlor grates, and, moreover, an excellent coal for similar purposes." It takes fire promptly, swells sufficiently, aggregates its masses together so as to form a good hot low fire. "The amount of sulphur is not such as to prevent its usefulness in this application, or to interfere with its preservation either on shipboard or on shore." We may here remark that in a report by the directors of the above named company to the stockholders this peculiar ty of freedom from any considerable quantity of sulphur is regarded as of the utmost importance in view of the recent disasters which have occurred to iron England and three American ships, which took fire and were