DUTY OF THE WHIGS.

The Philadelphia *Daily News* gives some advice to the Whigs of Pennsylvania, which the *Richmond Mail* says is equally applicable to the Whigs of Virginia, and which we say is also equally applicable to the Whigs of North Carolina—and to the latter we desire to commend the spirited and excellent observations of our contemporaries.

"If," says the "Mail," "in the face of 20,000 majority, the Whigs of Pennsylvania are determined, not only to stand by their party banner, but to contend with brave and believing hearts for victory, why should the Whigs [of North Carolina] dream of succumbing for a moment? The vote upon Scott's election was no test of the comparative strength of parties, as all candid men upon both sides will admit."

It is even more unmanly and absurd to despair of the success of the Whig cause in the country at large. Our defeat under Gen. Scott was by no means as decisive and disheartening as that of the locofocos under Van Buren. Horse, foot and dragoons, Old Tippecanoe drove the dominant party out of power. It is true, Van Buren obtained three more States than Scott—seven in all; but then it must be remembered that Van Buren had the advantage of holding the reins of power, with an army of office holders at his back, and the most perfect union and desperate energy among his own party. Scott had no official cohorts, and the Whigs supported him with a faint and divided heart. If the locofocos could rally and triumph after such a defeat as that of Van Buren, why should not the Whigs rally and triumph after the less decisive and less disastrous defeat of Gen. Scott? And, after all, although thousands upon thousands of the whigs in all the States of the Union staid at home at the last election, and would not vote at all, and while other thousands voted the locofoco ticket, *a larger number of votes were cast for Gen. Scott than any Whig candidate ever received before.* The Whig party polled more than a million and a half of votes in the last Presidential election, notwithstanding such numbers of them everywhere did not vote. And can there be those who would disband this immense army, and trail its glorious banner in the dust? If such there are, they would render the Whig cause a service by joining its open enemies, and ceasing to paralyze strong arms and courageous hearts, by their timid and gloomy forebodings.

The question for all true Whigs to consider, is—can you surrender Whig principles? Do you no longer believe that they are essential to the dignity and prosperity of the country? If you have yielded this ancient conviction, then you cannot disband too soon. If not, then you must retain your organization as the only mode of giving vitality and efficiency to your principles. For ourselves, we are thoroughly satisfied that the conservative influence of the Whig party was never more needed than it will be within the next four years. It saved the country in Mr. Polk's time from a senseless and ruinous war with Britain about Oregon. It saved the Union afterwards from the effects of the sectional quarrel produced by the Mexican war. Judging from the rampant spirit displayed by Young America now, and from the countenance which its aggressive tendencies receive in high places, Whig services may again be needed, ere the administration of Gen. Pierce be ended, to secure the peace and to maintain the Union of the country. Let every Whig, then, stand at his post prepared and determined to preserve intact the integrity and strength of the Whig party, so that, even though it may not wield the sword of victory, he may hold up a shield, which will protect the country and its institutions from domestic and foreign enemies."

SOULE—PURCHASE OF CUBA.

The Philadelphia *Bulletin* says it is generally believed, that before accepting his mission, Minister Soule obtained an assurance from the Executive that he should have unlimited powers for the purchase of Cuba." No such belief can have obtained credit in any intelligent quarter, simply because Mr. Soule has declared very explicitly that he is *opposed* to the purchase of that Island. In his speech in the Senate on that subject, on the 25th of January last, he spoke upon that point in the following very emphatic language:

"Sir, I am against purchasing Cuba.—Who ever knows anything of Castilian pride must be aware that Spaniards can never be brought to sell Cuba to us. And it seems to me strange that we should persist in seeking to purchase Cuba when Spain says she is unwilling to sell it—when her own Ministers have declared in the most solemn manner that they would sooner see that beautiful possession sunk into the bottom of the ocean than to see it go to any other power. Your tender of purchase therefore can effect nothing.

"No, sir. I have still another objection against purchasing Cuba. There is something there that speaks aloud for those suffering Cubanos, who call upon us for assistance. They are proud and would not consent to this purchase. I am unwilling to incur their susceptibilities; and thus, as far as a mere *act* of mine can have any bearing upon any policy which might now or hereafter be pursued, the *idea of purchasing Cuba has become an obsolete one and must be abandoned.* It is useless to attempt it. It is more than useless to speak of it. Spain is unwilling to sell and from the surrounding political atmosphere, I do not know that we would incur less danger in purchasing than in conquering the Island. I am against purchasing it."

After such declarations as these, it is idle to suppose that the idea of purchasing Cuba had any thing to do with the secession of Mr. Soule for this special mission. The fact is not disputed, we believe, however, that Mr. Soule is in favor of acquiring Cuba. As he is opposed to purchasing it, by fair and honorable contract, only one inference can be reasonably drawn from his position—which is, that he would obtain the island, by violence, through filibustering agencies, or in any other, way than by purchase.

The Spanish Court will doubtless refuse to receive Mr. S. as Minister. He cannot, certainly, be very agreeable to the Government either as Minister or man.—*Raleigh Register.*

A GOOD ORDER.

We see by the reports of the police court of the city of Louisville, that Judge Joyes, a day or two since, instructed the police to arrest all boys perambulating the streets at a late hour at night, unless they can show good cause for being out. His honor said that if parents could not keep their children at home he would take care of them.

North Carolina Whig.

CHARLOTTE:

WEDNESDAY, May 4, 1853.

☞ WILLIAM THOMPSON, Esq., is our agent in Baltimore, authorized to obtain advertisements and subscriptions, and to grant receipts.

☞ E. W. CARR, Esq., is our agent in Philadelphia, authorized to obtain advertisements and procure subscriptions.

☞ V. B. PALMER, Esq., is our authorized agent to receive advertisements and subscriptions at his offices in Boston, New York and Philadelphia.

FOR CONGRESS,

JAMES W. OSBORNE,

OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY.

CANDIDATE FOR CLERK.

The friends of WM. K. REID, take great pleasure in announcing his name to the People of the County of Mecklenburg, as a candidate for the Office of County Court Clerk, at the ensuing August Election.

☞ See an article on the first column on the duty of the Whig. We commend it to their particular attention and hope they will give it an attentive perusal.

☞ A friend has furnished us with Prof. Emmons's report in a condensed form. We are much obliged to him and shall commence it in our next number, as it is too long for one paper.

"A Matter in Ireland" shall be attended to.

☞ We call attention to the advertisement of Dr. Koch, who proposes to give instructions on the Piano Forte, &c. The Doctor comes well recommended and those who have daughters should avail themselves of this favorable opportunity to have them instructed in this elegant accomplishment.

DISCUSSION AT LINCOLNTON.

The candidates for Congress in this District, met at Lincolnton, last week, and partially opened the campaign. We learn that the discussion was limited by the Court to one hour each. Mr. Osborne led off, in his usual honorable style: He announced himself as being in favor of a distribution of the proceeds of the public lands. On this point Mr. Osborne will receive the approbation of nine-tenths of the people of the District. The lives we are greatly mistaken, the people of North Carolina, have determined that our old State shall retain her fair share of these lands. She is more entitled to them than the new States, to whom Congress has been giving them away by millions of acres. The question is, shall she demand her share of them? Surely our State needs the money; her right is clear, and it is strongly urged that any one opposed upon the ground of the—But strange as it may seem, and however much we regret it, just at this time, when we are requiring funds to carry on internal improvements, all together our Common Schools, &c., there are still some who are opposed to receiving the portion that would fall to North Carolina. We learn that Mr. Craige, in all the number, and that he took the ground that the question of the disposal of the public lands was unconstitutional. If it is unconstitutional for us, then please explain why the old States, it is usually unconstitutional to give them away to the new. We cannot understand how it can be otherwise. Yet we are happy to say, that Congressional distribution took a decided stand in favor of the old States. This fact, we think, will satisfy the people of the old States, and they will make their views heard on the subject, and protest against the unjust policy.

Mr. Osborne also explained his position in regard to the dangerous policy of extending indefinitely the Territory of the U. States. He was opposed to the annexation of Cuba, and showed how it would lead to direct strife between the free States and the slave States, growing out of the slavery question. Mr. Craige on the other hand, was in favor of the purchase of the Island, and was willing to go with the President in his policy, with the prospects of the party, expressed in their platform, for some time, should occasion arise in favor of the acquisition of Cuba, and every thing else within the grasp of the Union.

In relation to the question how the people of this District will act in reference to the approaching Presidential election, we are not prepared to say. We are very willing to see the result, from appearances on the Board of the new States, compared with the old States, in the next race of Foreign immigrants.

Are they willing to go with the present states in the explanation of territory, which will have a controlling influence in our institutions, for the next fifty years?

We clip the items from the last Standard which follow. We were on our way to the Mountains and there the discussion followed. We regret exceedingly that we were not able to return to our post in time to have given a sketch of the speeches in our last. Our correspondent has furnished us. The above sketch, however, presents in a very clear light the points at issue and discussed between the candidates. Mr. Osborne was in excellent argument and forcibly strong, and his speech gratified the highest expectations of his friends, and opened the eyes of his enemies. Mr. Craige followed and complimented Mr. Osborne's speech for the beauty of its rhetoric and eloquence of delivery, but thought, or rather seemed to think, that it was wanting in substance. Yet we are happy to say, some of Congressional-ge distinguished Statesmen, that the question, whether the people of the old States can