

THE NORTH-CAROLINIAN.

have been swerved from their devotion to the bond of union... of the principles it has made sacred.

Mr. Van Buren's Opinions. From the Richmond Enquirer of March, 1836.

MR. VAN BUREN—NO ABOLITIONIST. We lay this morning before our readers the following frank, manly, masterly letter of Mr. Van Buren on the subject of Abolitionism.

There is some reason to suspect that the letter from North Carolina was intended to embarrass him, as Jackson was the scene of the famous Mangum and Leigh dinner. But he has not hesitated to meet their question fairly, openly and above board.

NORTH CAROLINA CORRESPONDENCE. Jackson, February 23, 1836. DEAR SIR: A portion of your fellow citizens in this section, feeling a deep anxiety as to your views on a topic which most of us have thought proper to propose to you in the following interrogatory, to which wish an explicit answer.

Do you or do you not believe that Congress has the constitutional power to interfere with or abolish Slavery in the District of Columbia? The conspicuous situation in which you are placed, and the importance of the subject which you are called upon to answer on this interesting topic, will, we hope, be sufficient apology for the liberty we have taken.

JUNIUS AMIS, ISAAC HALL, JOHN C. YELLOWBY, SAM'L B. SPIRILL, JAS. W. PUZZINN, His Excellency MARTIN VAN BUREN.

MARTIN VAN BUREN'S REPLY. Washington, March 6, 1836.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter apprising me of the deep anxiety which is felt by a portion of your fellow citizens on the subject of your views on the propriety of their immediate welfare and happiness, and of the importance of their being possessed of a thorough knowledge of them; and asking me to say whether I do or do not believe that Congress has the constitutional power to interfere with or abolish slavery in the District of Columbia.

It is not only willing, but desirous, gentlemen, that you should have the most thorough knowledge of my views and feelings upon the delicate and interesting subject with which your question is connected; and I shall endeavor to acquaint you with them in the fullest manner in my power.

But in the course of my full concurrence in the sentiments expressed by the citizens of Albany, in public meeting, the most important of which are as follows, viz: "That the Constitution of the United States carries with it an adjustment of all questions involved in the deliberations which led to its adoption, and that the compromise of interests which it was founded, is binding in honor and good faith, independent of the force of agreement, on all who live under its protection, and participate in the benefits of which it is the source."

"That the relation of master and slave is a matter exclusively belonging to the people of each State, within its territory, and that any attempt by the Government or people of any other State, or by the General Government, to interfere with or disturb it, would violate the spirit of that compromise which lies at the basis of the Federal compact."

"That we can only look to maintain the Union of the States, and to preserve the public peace, and would, by all constitutional means, exert their influence to arrest the progress of such measures."

"That whilst they maintain inviolate the liberty of speech and the freedom of the press, they consider red discussion, which, from their nature, tends to excite the passions, and put in jeopardy the lives and property of their fellow-citizens, at war with every rule of moral duty, and every sentiment of humanity, and would be constrained, moreover, to regard those, who, with a full knowledge of their pernicious tendency, persist in stirring them up, as disloyal to the Union."

"That the power in Congress, which they would not consider them as disturbers of the public peace, and would, by all constitutional means, exert their influence to arrest the progress of such measures."

privity of this desire on your part; and although there is nothing in your letter making the avowal necessary, I prefer that not only you, but all the people of the United States shall now understand, that if the desire of that portion of them which is favorable to my elevation to the Chief Magistracy, should be gratified, I must go into the Presidential chair the inflexible and uncompromising opponent of any attempt on the part of Congress to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, against the wishes of the slave holding States; and also with the determination equally decided, to resist the slightest interference with the subject in the States where it exists.

The peculiar importance of the subject, and a desire (which you will allow me to feel) that my views on it should be correctly understood, make it proper that I should explain the grounds of the opinions above expressed. They are founded, amongst others, on the following considerations, viz:

1st. I believe, that if it had been foreseen, at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, that the seat of the Federal Government would be fixed in a slave-holding region, and that the subject of slavery would be there agitated to the prejudice of those holding this species of property, the right to do so would, with the assent of the non-slaveholding States, have been made an exception to the unreserved legislative power given to Congress over the District to be erected.

2dly. I cannot but regard the agitation of this subject in the District of Columbia as a surprise upon the people of Maryland and Virginia, being very confident that if the state of things which now exists, had been at all apprehended by those States, the assent of the District would not have been made except upon the express condition that Congress should exercise no such power; and that with such a condition the cession would, in the then state of public opinion, have been readily accepted.

3dly. I do therefore believe, that the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, against the wishes of the slave holding States, (assuming that Congress has the power to effect it) would violate the spirit of that compromise of interests which lies at the basis of our social compact; and I am thoroughly convinced that it could not be so done, without imminent peril, if not certain destruction to the Union of the States.

I think it due to the occasion, and only a simple act of justice to my fellow-citizens of the North, of all political parties, to add the expression of my full belief, that the opinions above expressed accord in substance with those entertained by a large majority of the people of the non-slaveholding States, as ever before existed, and which is a public question of equal magnitude.

"That there are persons at the North who are far from concurring in the prevailing sentiment I have described, is certainly true; but their numbers, when compared to the rest of the community, are very inconsiderable, and, if the condition of things be not so greatly aggravated by imprudence, as to have no doubt, will ultimately adopt sounder views of the subject, and the efforts of those who may persist in the work of agitation may be overcome by reason, or rendered inoperative by constitutional remedies."

To the class of those who have hitherto petitioned Congress for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, I cannot forbear to refer. I allude to the society of Friends, or the people usually denominated Quakers. The uniformity of their course upon this subject, the temperate manner in which it has been maintained, and the absence of any ostentation in their conduct and character; appear to have commanded respect for their motives, even from those who differ with them in opinion.

"That the present Administration, it is generally conceded, is essentially Southern in its principles and policy. It is distinguished by its devotion to the foreign and domestic interests of slavery, perhaps more than by any other feature.

"The protection of slave-labor seems to be its controlling principle. True, the freemen of the North and West number more than twice as many as those of the South, but they are supposed to have no peculiar interests; or the protection of their free labor is a minor consideration."

self-government could receive, and from which its recovery would be hopeless, the wise and good amongst them—those who are really guided by the principles of justice and humanity—will pause and acknowledge that they have misapprehended the true bearings of this question.

Let the Slave Holders of the South Look to their Condition. The extract below from the Globe shows that Mexico is about engaging in a war against Texas, in which she offers the slaves their freedom.

"The campaign of Texas will achieve much glory for Mexico, and restore her name and her honor. The slavery of the black man, which is tolerated in Texas, and which was the cause of the revolution, will arm the Mexicans to drive those usurpers beyond the Sabine. Mexico gives freedom to men of all colors, and she has her destiny to fulfil in this respect."

"So, it seems, Mexico has her destiny, giving freedom to all colors," as an offset to the destiny of the Anglo Saxons, which the Texan advocates have so much relied on—"getting possession of all the land."

This explains the motive of JOHN Q. ADAMS and others of this tribe in Congress, in siding with Mexico against the Texans—and even against their own Government, in its controversy with that power.

Any man in the slaveholding States, who reads these extracts, and still supports Harrison, is RECRAANT to the dearest interests of the South.

Where is the American that does not blush, when he calls to mind with what cool audacity, the minister of our free republic at London lately vindicated the right of holding human beings as property, and with what dishonorable pertinacity he demanded and re-demanded compensation for slave-property from the Court of St. James.

Mr. Van Buren is in subjection to the South. His cabinet is a slave-holding cabinet. The spirit of slavery there reigns supreme.

We cannot resist the impression, that more strenuous efforts are made to promote the interests of slavery abroad, than any other interest of the country. The most signal concession in a commercial way obtained of late years from foreign powers, is that procured by Mr. Whistler from the German Union of Commerce and Customs.

Another view of the subject we would present. Should the Van Buren party, after having rested its hopes of success to a great extent on its anti-abolition warfare, be defeated, it would be the best thing that could happen for them, as well as the free States.

A part of the United States troops stationed in the upper part of New York State have been ordered to march to the disputed territory, in Maine.

between Mr. Van Buren and Harrison for the Presidency, which was fought in November 1836, when Van Buren and Democracy conquered the combined Federal Bank Whiggery, under Webster, Harrison and White.

A great effort is made to charge upon the Democratic party, the evils which we suffer from banks, because they had majorities in some of the Legislatures that chartered these banks. This is a further instance of the British Whig hypocrisy.

The Emancipator, the journal of the New York Abolition Society, quotes the following from the Mexican press, the Tamaulipas Gazette.

"The campaign of Texas will achieve much glory for Mexico, and restore her name and her honor. The slavery of the black man, which is tolerated in Texas, and which was the cause of the revolution, will arm the Mexicans to drive those usurpers beyond the Sabine."

Harrison for a High Tariff. The Boston Courier, (Webster's organ) comes out openly and supports Harrison on the ground, that he will favor a protective Tariff of duties, while Mr. Van Buren will and does oppose such a Tariff.

And yet the federalists hereabouts, say that Harrison is not a Tariff-man, and that the President is. How long has it been since the oppression of a Tariff to the South had well nigh severed this Union?

Federal Treachery Exposed. We insert below, a letter from Mr. A. G. Jackson, whose name was placed on the "whig" committee of "one hundred," at the late Federal Meeting in this place.

Have not your banks more power than your government, people of North Carolina? Can your government raise or sink the price of your property as your banks do? Surely they cannot, and surely they do not.

The British Harrison Bank Whiggery, riddle and fidget and prevaricate, to get rid of their legitimate position as the Bank party and Federal aristocrats of the country.

They oppose the Independent Treasury System which the Government proposes to keep itself disconnected from all banks, as it now is. While, with a twofold hypocrisy, they neither recommend the State Banks nor a National Bank, as fit depositories for the public moneys; and in short, offer no plan of their own to supply the place of the Independent Treasury.

The unprincipled scurrility and obscene vulgarity of the Observer's attacks on us this week, present another exemplification of the story of "the viper and the file."

Congress had passed no appropriation bill except for the pay of its members up to the last accounts. The public business has been unjustifiably delayed by the hot political strife, waged in the house for now almost four months.

The Editor of the Democratic Review has received an article of great length and much interest, from a friend in Paris, entitled "France, its King, Court, and Government."

The delay of the April number of the Review, and its cause, you are requested to announce in your paper, as the most convenient way of informing subscribers in your vicinity.

Washington, March 31, 1840. We have a report that orders have been received from Washington to prepare for sea all the vessels of war now under cover at the Navy Yard, Brooklyn.—Democratic Banner.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT. Corrected weekly for the North Carolinian.

Table with columns for Fayetteville and Wilmington prices. Items include Brandy, Bacon, Butter, etc. with prices in dollars and cents.

NOTICE.

DUNCAN LAMONT, son of Duncan Lamont, who removed from the Parish of Cornwall, Argyleshire, Scotland, to this country, will find it to his interest to apply to Col. David Gillis, of this county, or to this office, for information from Scotland of much importance to him.

The name of Lamont is often pronounced Lammon. Fayetteville, April 10th, 1840.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA. Sampson County, ) Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions February Term, 1840.

E. J. & L. R. Clarke vs. John A. Bizzel. [Original Attachment.]

Levied on his interest in the Lands which descended from his father Asher Bizzel to him and others, as Heirs at Law.

Witness, Thomas I. Faison Clerk of said Court, at office in Clinton the first Monday of February, Anno Domini 1840 and 64th of American Independence.

THOMAS I. FAISON, Clerk. April 11, 1840.