North Carolina Argus.

JOHN W. CAMERON, PUBLISHER. | This Argus o'er the People's rights doth an eternal vigil keep: | No soothing strain of Maia's Son can lull his hundred eyes to sleep. | TERMS: TWO DOLLARS IN ADVANCE

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BY
JOHN W. CAMERON,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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June 13, 1854. 23-tf

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Dr. S. J. Hinsdale's
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February 7, 1856. 109-tf

ANDREW J. STEDMAN,
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PITTSBOROUG, N. C.
Will attend the County and Superior Courts of Chatham, Moore, and Harnett Counties.
July 14, 1855. 79-tf

JOHN WINSLOW
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Office on the South side of Hay street, opposite the Fayetteville Bank.
FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
February, 1854. 71y

R. H. SANDFORD,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR
AT LAW.
Office at Dr. Hall's New Building, on Bow Street.
Sept. 1855. 1855-88ly

B. B. Hopkins, Rosser Hull. | Wm. H. Ryan, Thos. W. Atkinson.
Hopkins, Hull & Co,
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DRY GOODS MERCHANTS,
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Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Boots Shoes, and Ready Made Clothing.
Particular attention paid to
LADIES' DRESS GOODS and TRIMMINGS.
Hay Street, Fayetteville, N. C.
May 26, 1855. 72-tf

Valuable Lands for Sale.

THE Subscriber, being desirous of moving to the west, offers for sale the following tracts of Land: One containing Ninety Acres of as good up Land as is in the county, one mile from Floral College, joining the lands of John Walker, Neill McNeill, and others. Also the Plantation on which he now resides, containing Three Hundred and Fifty Acres of Land—seventy of which is cleared and in a high State of Cultivation, having on it a two story dwelling and all necessary out houses. Said land is situated three miles east of Floral College, joining the lands of Daniel McArthur, Jane McArthur and others. The above lands are in a highly respectable neighborhood, and any person wishing to buy land would do well to call soon, as I am determined to sell.

If not previously sold I will sell the above lands to the highest bidder on **Thursday**, the last **Examination** day, at Floral College.

HECTOR J. McLEAN.

P. S.—Persons wishing further information respecting the above lands may address the subscriber at Gilchrists, Robeson County, N. C.

H. J. McLEAN.
April 5, 1856. 116-4w

$25.00 REWARD.

I WILL give a reward of Twenty-Five Dollars, for the apprehension and delivery to me of my negro BOY JOHN, who ran away from me on the 21st of March last. Said boy is about 37 years old, weighing about 150 or 160 Pounds, about five feet 8 or 9 inches high.

JOHN McDONALD.
Rockingham, April 10, 1856. 118-tf

NEW GOODS.
MOORE & BROTHER
Are receiving a Large and Handsome Stock of
Staple and Fancy Dry Goods,
Consisting of almost every thing kept in a Dry Goods line, viz:

Plain, Plaid, Fig'd Black and col'd Silks; Berages of every quality and price; Tissues, Organdies, Lawns, Challies, Muslin DeLanes, and all the latest styles of Robes; Ginghams; Jaconet, Mull and Swiss Muslins; a fine selection of Embroidery; Kid, Pic Nic and Silk Gloves; a large lot of Linen Cambric and Silk Handkerchiefs; Plain, Plaid and Embroidered Crape Shawls; Talmas; Silk, and Lace Mantles; Bonnet Silk and Lace Ribbons; Parasols; Bonnets, Flats and Hats for Misses; a large lot of Hosiery; Colored and Black Gaiters, Walking Shoes, Children's Shoes and Gaiters, &c.

ALSO,

A large stock of **READY-MADE CLOTHING**, for Gentlemen and Youths; Hats, Boots, Gaiters and Shoes. And in fact, every article usually kept in the Dry Goods Line, which we invite the public to examine.

April 3. 117-tf

Beauty, Elegance, and Economy, combined,
In my well-assorted Stock of No. one
READY-MADE CLOTHING,
For Gentlemen, Youths and Boys.
FURNISHING GOODS,
Such as Dress Shirts of French Fancy Linnen and fine plain Irish Linens, &c.
FANCY GOODS,
Straw Hats; Wide Awakes; BOOTS, Gentlemen's Gaiters of every description, **Patent Leather Oxford Ties; Southern Travelling Trunks**, Trunks for Ladies with secret Drawers and Bonnet Boxes attached; **Valises; Carpet Bags; Umbrellas; Walking Canes; Segars; Looking Glasses**, large and small;
and "last, but not least," a few more of "THE VESTS" left, with countless invisible profiles of different Physiognomies.

Making in all the Largest, Cheapest, and Handsomest assortment of Goods in this branch of business ever exhibited in this Market.

I would respectfully solicit a continuance of the patronage heretofore so liberally extended to me, and I have no hesitation in saying that the result will be a satisfactory one to my customers.

GEORGE BRANDT,
South side Hay Street.
Fayetteville, N. C., April 10, 1856. 118-2m

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

COLUMBUS COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, February Term, 1856.

Elizabeth Sasser, Caleb Green and wife Winneyfred, Henry Sasser, Calvin Sasser, Simon Sibley and wife Epsy, Leonard Long and wife Mary, James Sasser, and Ira Sasser,
vs.
Matthew G. Sasser, Adm'r on the estate of Frederick Sasser deceased and Evan Sasser.

Petition for Account.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the defendant Evan Sasser, resides beyond the limits of this State: It is ordered by the Court, that publication be made for five successive weeks in the North Carolina Argus, notifying the said Evan Sasser to appear at the next term of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions to be held for Columbus County, at the Court House in Whiteville, on the second Monday in May next, then and there to plead, answer or demur to this petition, or the same will be taken *pro confesso* and heard *ex parte*.

Witness, William M. Baldwin, Clerk of our said Court, at office, the second Monday of February, A. D. 1856. W. M. BALDWIN, C. C. C.
118-5w-Prf-$3.15.

MESSRS. GREEN & WEAR,
Watch Makers, Jewelers, and
METALLOGRAPHERS,

HAVING associated themselves together for the purpose of carrying on the above branches of business, would respectfully announce to the citizens of Fayetteville and surrounding country, that they have leased the Store on the North West corner of the Hotel Building, on Hay Street where they are prepared to execute orders in the above branches in a satisfactory and workmanlike manner, and respectfully solicits a share of public patronage.

R. D. GREEN,] [J. S. WEAR.

A CARD.

Mr. R. D. GREEN, **Watch Maker**, respectfully begs leave to return his thanks to his very numerous patrons while having charge of the Watch department in the firm of Messrs. Beasly & Houston, and hopes the work done by him in the past, will be a sufficient recommendation for the future.

N. B. All watches to be repaired will be taken apart in the presence of the owner, and a written estimate given of necessary repairs, which will be warranted for two years.

April 12, 1856. 118-tf

Cape Fear Land for Sale,

The subscriber offers for sale **Three Hundred and Eighty-five Acres of LAND** on Cape Fear River, below Smith's Ferry, in Cumberland county, running with the River to the lands of Mrs. Byrd.

A portion of the land is cleared and fenced. It is well adapted to the cultivation of corn, oats, and the usual crops of the river lands. The part uncleared has on it some good swamp, which may be easily prepared for use.

It will be sold on a credit of twelve months. Persons wishing to buy can call on the owner at this place.

J. G. SHEPHARD.
April 3. 119-tf

NO CROSS, NO CROWN

The following poem, by Sheldon Chadwick, is extracted from his volume of Poems, just published in England:

'Twas eve, and in a lowly room
A student sat in sombre gloom,
Twirling his fingers in his hair,
Like one in reverie or despair,
Before him lay an open book;
Sadness was in his languid look;
And as he traced the pages o'er
Four golden words his spirit bore—
No cross, no crown.

Around, in death-like silence, stood
The forms of many great and good—
Prophets, martyrs crucified;
Stern patriots who for freedom died;
And poets who died desolate,
Scanning the wondrous scroll of fate
While glory round their foreheads shone
He read upon their line of stone—

Hard was the toil, through learning's lore,
For one so young and worldly poor;
His books were precious, though but few;
And deathless fire from Heaven he drew.
Heart-wearied oft, and overwrought,
He placed in throbbing lines his thought,
And mid his toil this seemed to be
The voice alone of destiny—
No cross, no crown.

Sometimes his noble spirit turned
And oft he judged his efforts vain
To cross the burning bars of pain.
Life's cup was dashed with bitterness;
And then he thought of those of old,
Who carved in brass these words of gold—
No cross, no crown.

They fought the battle, bore the cross,
That truth might never suffer loss;
But, like the tempest cradled flower,
Spring through the storm—the martyr's dower—
Souls that, while beaconing the free,
Sank like a light-house in the sea;
But from their graves their spirit came,
Uttering words of winged flame—
No cross, no crown.

And thus he woke his spirit's string
To music's rare imaginings;
To love and freedom, truth and right,
Justice and mercy, stars of light.
O cheerful fell those golden words
Upon his worn heart's tender chords;
In death these words his spirit bore,
And chants them still for evermore—
No cross, no crown.

This be the motto of the brave,
And this the watchword of the slave;
The patriot's, with the people sworn;
The martyr's, with his garlands thorn.
Whoever seeks to win a name,
Whoever toils for freedom's fame,
Whoever human tears would dry,
Let this forever be his cry—
No cross, no crown.

WHY SATAN NEVER BECAME 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 a 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 incited much interest in the neighborhood, but no solution of the difficulty could be obtained. At last 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, having more capacity in that way than the sturdy Arab of flesh and bone, immediately entered the pot as suggested. The moment he entered Mohammed closed the top of the spout and shut him 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 place of confinement to take his necessary place in the management of the affairs of the world. But before restoring him to 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."

SLEEP.

Observation and scientific experiment constantly confirm the fact that *the brain is nourished, and repaired, during sleep*. If then we have not sleep enough, the brain is not nourished, and like everything else, when deprived of sufficient nourishment, withers and wastes away, until the power of sleep is lost and the whole man dwindles to skin and bone, or dies a maniac!

The practical inferences which we wish to impress upon the reader are two:

1st. By all means sleep enough, give all who are under you sleep enough, by requiring them to go to bed at some regular hour, and to get up at the spontaneous waking in the morning. Never waken up any one especially children, from a sound sleep, unless there is urgent necessity; it is cruel to do so; to prove this, we have only to notice how fretful and unhappy a child is, when waked up before the nap is out.

2. If the brain is nourished during sleep, it must have most vigor in the morning, hence the morning is the best time for study; for then, the brain has most strength, most activity, and must work more clearly. It is "the midnight lamp" which floods the world with the sickly sentimentalities, with false morals, with rickety theology, and with all those harum scarum dreams of human elevation, which abnegate Bible teachings.—*Hall's (N. Y) Journal of Health.*

A Philadelphia punster says, that in view of the universal fun made by the American press over the birth of the Prince of Algiers, he proposes that the title of the illustrious stranger should be changed to the "Prince of All-jeers."

'Push along keep moving.'

FUNERAL EULOGY.—As delivered in the Florida House of Representatives, 1848.—(Veritatem.)

Mr. Speaker:—Sir, our fellow-citizen, Mister Silas Higgins, who was lately a member of this Legislature, is dead, and he died yesterday in the forenoon. He had the brown-ereturs and was an uncommon individual. His character was good up to the time of his death, and he never lost his voice. He was fifty-six years old, and was taken sick before he died at his boarding-house, where board can be had at one seventy five a week, washing and lights including. He was an ingenus creator, and in the early part of his life had a father and mother. He was an officer in our State militia since the last war, and was brave and polite, and his uncle Timothy Higgins, belonged to the revolutionary war, and was commissioned as leftenant by General Washington first President and commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, who died at Mount Vernon deeply lamented by a large circle [illegible] the cannons, and was buried after his death with military honors, and several guns, was bust in firing salutes.

Sir, Mister Speaker, Sir, General Washington presided over the great continental sanhedrum and political meeting that formed our Constitution: and he was indeed a great and good man. He was fust in war, fust in peace and fust in the hearts of his country, tho' he was in favor of the United States Bank; he was a friend of education, and from what he said in his farewell address I have no doubt he would have voted for the tariff of 1839, if he had been alive and hadn't died sometime before hand. His death was considered at the time as rather premature on account of its being brought on by an ordinary cold.

Now, Sir, Mister Speaker, such being the character of General Washington, I motion that we ware red crape around the left arm of this Legislature, and adjourn till to-morrow morning as an emblem of our respects for the memory of S. Higgins, who is dead, and died of the brown-ereturs yesterday in the forenoon.

SPEECH OF
JOHN A. GILMER,
OF GUILFORD COUNTY.
DELIVERED IN THE SENATE,

On the 14th December, 1854, on the motion of Mr. Graham to strike out all of Mr. Boyd's Bill providing for Free Suffrage by Legislative enactment, and insert an amendment, providing for the call of a Convention.

Mr. SPEAKER:—I am in favor of the leading provision contained in the bill introduced by the Senator, (Mr. Boyd,)—the extension of suffrage, properly guarded, and granted in a manner safe to republican freedom. I conceive it but proper that all free white citizens, who are allowed to vote for members of the House of Commons, should also be allowed to vote for Senators. It accords entirely with my feelings to permit all, who vote at the one box, to vote also at the other. If nothing more than the extension of suffrage was *effected* by the bill, I would be the last to raise my voice against it. Raised and educated as I have been, it would be contrary to my inclination and natural impulses to oppose any measure tending to secure to my fellow-citizens equal rights and privileges, wherever and whenever the same can be done consistently with the rules of *justice*, and freedom, securely and satisfactorily regulated.

This bill, I admit, has a *title*, and professes a *purpose*, most fascinating and imposing. To refuse it my support, I am aware, will expose me and my friends to the most bitter criticism, and the most unjust and illiberal misrepresentations as to our true designs and purposes. All this I am willing patiently to bear and endure. I have a duty to perform to my constituents, and the State, at large. In discharge of this duty, I desire to explain, in brief, why I am opposed to the bill, and in favor of the amendment.

I admit, that to amend the Constitution of the State, in the manner proposed by the bill, is clearly and certainly within the express provisions of the Constitution. But to this mode we have not as yet been committed by any precedent. I hope and trust we never shall be. Precedents have a great and powerful influence as well as binding force and effect, for good or for evil.

The fundamental maxim of American freedom is, "that all political power is vested in, and derived from, the people only." This is also a part of our Constitution. How can this be true, if the people, *as the people themselves*, have given up their power and control over their fundamental law, their constitution, to their General Assembly, their Governor?—reserving to themselves the menial privilege of saying that *they will have*, or *they will not have*, this or that which three-fifths of the members this Senate may in their wisdom and gracious condescension submit for their approval or rejection? Would this be reserving all power in their own hands? Under this rule, could it any longer be truly said that all political power is vested in the people? The Senate of the United States has the power of passing on the nominations of the President. But by the exercise of this approving or rejecting power, can the Senate secure what they want, their own choice? Can they by the exercise of all their power secure the appointment of the persons that they deem best qualified to discharge the duties of the office to be filled? Can it be truly said of the said Senate, that all the appointing power is vested in and derived from them only? Let us once be committed by precedent to the *legislative* mode of amending our fundamental law, the Constitution of the sovereign people, and my word for it, it can no longer be said in truth, "that all political power is vested in and derived from the people only." If the people of North Carolina can never have any amendment to, or alterations of, their Constitution, except such as shall on a final vote, meet the approbation of two-thirds of this Senate, *organized as it is*, they are, I presume, less free and independent than they have heretofore supposed they were and, whether they are really so, they cannot be induced to enquire too soon. To my mind the proposition that seventeen Senators in this chamber representing (as I will presently show) only one hundred and nineteen thousand of the inhabitants of the State, should defeat the vote of thirty-three Senators representing the unanimous voice and wish of four hundred and thirty-three thousand inhabitants, is monstrous. Can any true republican rest easy under such doctrine? Constitutional freedom indeed!! Away with such popular sovereignty!!! As much as I have ever been, and ever expect to be, opposed to making the Constitution of the State, the Palladium of our liberties, depend on the suddenly formed formed and expressed opinion of a majority of the voters, I would prefer such rule to the admission that a diminutive minority of one hundred and nineteen thousand inhabitants, haughty in their tone and bearing, with their seventeen Senators, should control and govern four hundred and thirty-five thousand inhabitants with their thirty three Senators. They may be said to be out of place and have no application to a simple proposition to amend so as to [illegible] electors vote for Senators. But it must [illegible] in mind that the method or mode, to which we shall now commit ourselves, by precedent, will be cited and insisted on as to all other amendments now or hereafter to be proposed, and it becomes an immense majority of the free people of North Carolina to enquire seriously whether they are not taking an extension of suffrage at a very great abridgment and sacrifice of political freedom and popular rights, especially when all this can be more easily, surely, cheaply and quickly done by adopting the amendment proposed.

Are Senators in earnest? Do they really wish to let all vote for Senators? Do they wish to have the privilege extended? If so, then why not adopt the amendment? Let the people be consulted, and bid them to call their convention in case they want one. Does any one doubt that the convention would give this very Free Suffrage proposed by the bill, and that, at the very next election for members of the General Assembly, all who vote for members of the House, would also vote for Senators? Why not consult the people at once—go into convention on the Federal basis, as the amendment proposes? Give free and equal suffrage, supply, by express constitutional provision, a fair protection to lands against unequal and exorbitant taxation, settle all questions as to constitutional amendments and reforms in the course of the next year, save a dangerous precedent, and let the popular mind become again quiet and satisfied with their own Constitution still in their hands and under their own control.

I am for exercising and giving this right to vote for Senators to all qualified voters now.—By adopting the amendment, and the people desire it, they will certainly get it, and *in a short time*. Then why not, at once, adopt that course which is speedy and certain? The question of Free Suffrage, by Legislative enactment, has once had its constitutional test and trial. It passed one session of the Assembly. At the next, it failed to get the requisite majorities.—The gentleman from Martin, (Mr. Biggs,) in one sense, seems to be terribly alarmed at the idea of the deliberate and settled will of a majority prevailing, however great that majority may be, *provided* it shall not be sufficiently large to carry the proposed amendment through two successive Assemblies, by the majorities prescribed and required by the Constitution itself. He seems to be in dread of having the popular mind *often* and *repeatedly* agitated with a desire to change or alter their organic law. Is he sincere? Do his course and conduct accord with his own doctrines? Have not the people of the State, through their members of last session of the general Assembly, decided *against this* very reform? On what ground does the Senator from Martin now insist that we should pass this bill and reject the amendment? Is it not on the ground that a majority of the people have indicated their anxiety for it? If a majority is to prevail in securing, by legislative enactment, why should not the deliberate, settled, and well considered will of a majority prevail in other things? Suppose Free Suffrage, instead of being defeated on the final vote at the last session had passed, the honorable Senator I presume would now pronounce a proposition to repeal what the people had constitutionally sanctioned *agitation*, and the mover thereof a *dangerous agitator*. He certainly makes a difference in this respect for decisions on constitutional questions. If a decision is made, as he individually desires, then it is a determination that he will respect—if against him, it is entitled to no consideration.

Mr. Speaker, is Free Suffrage the only question of constitutional reform that agitates or is likely to agitate the popular mind? Will the anxiety of a multitude in the State, to elect their Justices of the Peace, their Judges, Comptroller, Treasurer, Secretary of State, and a Lieutenant Governor, be quieted by the passage of this Free Suffrage Bill? He (Mr. Biggs,) insists and argues, that by legislative enactment, the Assembly can submit but one specific amendment at one time. Grant this to be correct, and look fairly and honestly at things as they are, and I would ask when are we to get rid of constitutional questions? How long will the system of law-making and Constitution amending continue? Shall any man living see the end of it? What respect will the people have for their Constitution, when it shall become mixed and commingled with the ordinary legislation of the country? If the system shall once fairly obtain, I would inquire how long it will continue, before some Governor will submit to the Assembly the propriety of appointing Commissioners to revise, not only the Statutes, but the Constitution itself?

We have ever considered the Constitution the safe-guard of the people—a guaranty against the abuse of power. In conformity with this notion, the people have provided and required all whom they trust with power, from the highest to the lowest officer, civil or military, to take a solemn oath to support it. As long as the people shall keep their Constitution, the work of their own, in their own hands, and under their own control, seperate and distinct from the ordinary legislation of the country, legislators, their servants, and themselves the sovereigns, we may expect the Constitution to answer the purposes for which it was framed and adopted, commanding the veneration it deserves. When it shall go into the hands of partisan legislators, its reform or amendment to be influenced by other questions of legislation, become the foot ball of party, party appeals and party rallies made for and against, and the success or defeat of this or that reform in the organic law made to depend on party triumphs or party defeats, I anticipate a very different state of things. In fact, Mr. Speaker, when I take the oath of Senator, the idea of commencing forthwith to tinker with and amend the very [illegible] Constitution, which I have sworn solemnly to support, is contrary to all the ideas I have ever entertained of constitutional freedom and legislative responsibility. The Federal Constitution, made to define powers, granted by sovereign States to a limited government to secure the welfare of all, may more safely be altered or amended by the action of Congress and the ratification of the States as States. The idea of a majority of the people of the whole Union altering or amending the Federal Constitution, is at war with the very nature and character of a government acting for States, in all things sovereign except so far as, (for the common good,) they have yielded power to a government common to all. North Carolina is a consolidated government, its Legislature having power to make, alter, limit, extend and repeal her counties, and, in amending or altering her Constitution, should be cautious in following the example of a government limited and circumscribed in character, acting for States, and not for the people of the whole Union, *en masse*, like [illegible] State government acting for all the people [illegible] Carolina as one community.

[illegible] as the Constitution now stands [illegible] by an express provision of the [illegible] secured against unequal [illegible] So is land by the provision [illegible] alone elect the members of the Senate. By the bill offered by the Senator from Rockingham, providing *simply* that all who vote for members of the House, shall also vote for members of the Senate, the landholder loses his protection against his land being unequally and excessively taxed. The protection to slave property remains. The protection to land is removed. If it is deemed necessary and proper to protect the slaves, is it not equally necessary and proper to protect in like manner the lands? Do Senators believe that when we go home to our constituents, *the farmers, the freeholders* who elected us and on whom we are to depend for our re-election, and they understand that we have set on foot a plan of *free suffrage*, by which is removed all restriction on the power of the Assembly to tax their lands, (now at a time when the taxes of the State are to be greatly increased,) whilst the slaveholder retains his protection, that they will be satisfied? I expect to hear the freeholders of all parties who sent me here say, that they have no objection to all voting for Senators, provided you, in making the change, give the land the same protection against an unequal taxation, that is given to the slaves. But if you have done the one without providing for the other, which could be so easily done, we are dissatisfied, and in the selection of Senators for the next Assembly, we will try to select members, who have regard for justice, as well as equality, and who, when they give the latter, should secure the former. I cannot conceive Senators serious in expecting this bill, in its present shape, to be sanctioned by the next Senate, to be elected, by the landholders, from whose lands all protection in levying taxes is removed. However anxious and willing the freeholders, who own land and no slaves, or land and a few slaves, may be to allow all their neighbors to aid them in the selection of Senators, I conceive a change, that even party ties cannot prevent, will come over them in relation to this subject, and incline them to demand that when they yield to this just extension of suffrage, that their lands shall be placed on an equal footing with polls and the large slave owners. In all sincerity, I submit to the consideration of Senators, and all who feel an interest in slave property, and its peaceful and proper enjoyment, as it is my interest and sincere desire they ever should, whether this bill, in its present shape, is not calculated to excite feelings, jealousies and dissensions much more to be dreaded, than any that could ever grow out of the amendment offered by the Senator from Orange, (Mr. Graham,) and by which the Senator from Martin (Mr. Biggs,) seems to be driven into such horrors.

If it is the honest, sincere design of Senators to commit the State to the legislative mode of amending the Constitution, and by piece-meal to keep the country agitated for years to come, leading off with Free Suffrage, why not permit the bill to be amended and put in that shape that will be acceptable to the freeholders? The Senator from Martin has in his speech failed to answer that part of the argument of the Senator from Orange, pointing out to him the injustice of the bill. He has not attempted to answer this. He does not even deny this injustice. Instead of this he raises the war cry of party. He reads documents, messages, and political resolutions on other subjects. He levels his artillery at the Whig party, seemingly under the impression that it be destroyed *dear party*, it would be a good substitute for an answer that he ought to make, but could not. He is evidently unwilling that his pet project should be amended or in any way modified even for the better. He is opposed to the bill assuming a shape that would be more acceptable to the land owners and certainly do no hurt to its leading feature, lest it might appear to the freemen of the State, that all wisdom and foresight did not belong to his own party friends. He will accept no aid from this side. He seems determined to rule or ruin.

The Senator from Martin argues at length to show that now, for the first time, the issue is distinctly made, Free Suffrage by legislative enactment, or a free and unrestricted Convention called on the federal basis, the basis of the House of Commons; and before he gets through he falls upon the Western Address, belabors it, but admits that in it, four years ago, this issue was distinctly made. He holds up this address as containing something dangerous and monstrous, and [illegible] ready as he is at reading from books and papers, he reads none of this address, and points out no part thereof, that he deems objectionable or censurable.

I am glad, Mr. Speaker, that the Senator, in this debate, has called attention to this address heretofore so much misrepresented, perverted and abused. I am still the more gratified that after giving this paper his attention at [illegible] review he cannot find any portion of it, which he is prepared to condemn. Why did he not do this? He doubtless, on a more careful examination, found a different document from what he had supposed, having formed his opinion of it from the false, illiberal and unjust criticisms of his own party presses.

It is true, that four years ago, after members in the other end of this Capitol, coming from the same section of the State, in which resides the Senator from Martin, and where his opinions and influences prevail, had attempted by resolutions indirectly to destroy the prospects of the North Carolina Railroad, and to repudiate the State's subscription to this work, and after the feelings and views of Western men had been outraged and misrepresented, Western members, under the excitement of the occasion, did get together, form, and publish that address. And here I would call attention to the fact that in this meeting were none but western gentlemen, Whigs and some Democrats. Their deliberations were their own—exclusively western. They were not checkered, influenced, or modified by conference and intercourse with the eastern men, views and influence. And after all this, did they agree and insist upon any thing that was radical, revolutionary, or dangerous? Did they intimate or insist on a change of the federal basis in the House of Commons? No, sir, nothing of that kind. Did they insist on the white basis in the Senate? No; they insisted on no such thing. They stated, in a fair, open and manly way, the advantages which they conceived the east had over the west, according to the present basis so imperfectly executed and carried out. They showed that notwithstanding the false and illiberal illusions to the contrary, there were more