North Carolina Argus.

JOHN W. CAMERON, PUBLISHER. This Argus o'er the people's rights doth an eternal sight keep; No soothing strain of Mars'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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FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
OFFICE ON OLD STREET.
January, 1854. 1-1y.

COOK & JOHNSON,
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
English, German, and American Hardware and Cutlery.
January 10, 1854. 1tf

Worth & Utley,
Forwarding and General Commission Merchants,
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J. A. WORTH, JOS. UTLEY.
February 20, 1854. 7tf

A. M. Campbell,
Auctioneer and Commission Merchant,
GILLESPIE STREET,
Fayetteville, N. C.
Feb'y 10, 1854. 6-1y

Charles Banks,
CONFECTIONER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN
Foreign Fruits, Nuts, Cigars, Tobacco, Snuff,
GREEN STREET,
Fayetteville, N. C.
January 16, 1854. 2-tf

S. M. THOMAS,
DEALER IN
FANCY AND STAPLE DRY GOODS,
READY-MADE CLOTHING,
Hats, Caps, Bonnets, Boots and Shoes, Sheetings, Cotton Yarns, Kerseys, Blankets, &c., &c.
CORNER MARKET AND GREEN ST., Fayetteville, N. C.

J. S. BANKS,
COMMISSION AND FORWARDING
MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, North Carolina.
Jan. 5, 1855. 104-1y

J. A. SPEARS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Attends the Courts of Cumberland, Harnett, Wake, and Johnson.
Address, Toomer, Harnett Co., N. C.
110-1y.

W. P. ELLIOTT,
GENERAL COMMISSION AND FORWARDING MERCHANT,
Wilmington, N. C.
June 13, 1854. 23-tf

DR. K. A. BLACK,
OFFICE FRONT ROOMS, OVER
Dr. S. J. Hinsdale's
Chemist and Drug Store.
February 7, 1856. 109-tf

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

JOHN WINSLOW
Attorney at Law.
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

N. B. HOPKINS, WM. B. RYAN,
ROBERT HULL, THOS. W. ATKINSON.
Hopkins, Hull & Co.
WHOLESALE
DRY GOODS MERCHANTS,
No. 258 Baltimore Street,
(Opposite Hanover Street,)
BALTIMORE, MD.
February, 1854. 4-y

J. C. POE,
DEALER IN
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.
Mar 26, 1855. 72-tf

K. M. MURCHISON,
Commission and Forwarding Merchant,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
January 10, 1855. 98-1y

NEW GOODS,
WE ARE NOW RECEIVING A
FRESH SUPPLY OF
SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS,
READY-MADE CLOTHING; SOFT Wool and Summer Hats,
in great variety.
A complete assortment of BOOTS and SHOES will be to hand in a few days. All of which will be disposed of to Wholesale Buyers on liberal terms.
STARR & WILLIAMS.
April 28. 120-tf

NOTICE.

THAT on the 2d Monday of June next, at the Court House door, in the Town of Toomer, I will sell the following Tracts of Land in Barbecue District, or so much thereof as will be sufficient to pay the Taxes and costs on said lands for 1854:

Names of persons.	Acres.	Value.	poll.	Location.	Tax.
John E. Clark	100	75	1	Meadow Branch	1 c.
Neill Clark's heirs	200	60		Big Branch	.30
Catharine Clark	141	70		Meadow Branch	.34
Daniel Cameron (mill)	650	650	2	Cypress Creek	5.32
Jno. W. Cameron	2197	2197		Gum Swamp and Cypress Creek	13.00
Brice Holder	358	500	1	Hickory Branch	2.47
Daniel Johnson	130	100		Crake's Creek	.49
Samuel E. Johnson	561	1050	4	Duncan's Creek and Gum Swamp	18.80
James Morris	150	100	1	Fork Shepard's road	1.56
J. G. Matthews	200	150		D. Bale's Creek	.72
John McRae	675	475	3	Anderson's Creek	6.07
McLean Duncan A.	150	150	3	Jumping Run	2.67
Malcom Smith	50	100		Kate's Creek	.49
Josie L. Bryan	200	100		head of G. Swamp	.60
Catharine Johnson	60	50		Jumping Run	24½ c.
Daniel McMillan	100	87		Crake's Creek	.87
John Swan	940	940		Bale's Creek	1.21
Daniel Darroch, Jr	200	75	1	Horsepen Branch	1.18

JAS. A. JOHNSON, Sheriff.
By J. A. McDONALD, D. S.
April 22, 1856. 120-ts

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
RICHMOND COUNTY,
Superior Court of Law, Spring Term, A. D. 1856.
Mary Jane Stewart vs. Malcom B. Stewart.
Petition from bed and board, and alimony.

In this case it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the Defendant resides beyond the jurisdiction of this Court, or so absconds or conceals himself that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him. It is therefore ordered by the Court, that publication be made for six weeks in the North Carolina Argus, a newspaper published in the town of Fayetteville, notifying the said Malcom B. Stewart personally to be and appear at the next term of this Court, to be held for the county of Richmond, at the Court House in Rockingham on the third Monday of September A. D. 1856; then and there to plead, answer or demur, to the Petition filed, otherwise the allegations therein contained will be taken *pro confesso* and heard *ex parte* as to him.

Witness, R. S. McDonald, Clerk of our said Court, at office in Rockingham the third Monday of March, A. D. 1856, and of American Independence the 79th year.

R. S. McDONALD, C. S. C.
121-6w.pf $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 taken 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

AN ENTIRE NEW STOCK
OF
DRY GOODS.
THE Subscriber has taken the stand on the North West corner of Market Square, adjoining the Store of Mr. James Kyle, where he has received in part, and is now receiving, an entirely new Stock of Goods, embracing nearly every variety of styles usually called for in the Dry Goods trade—among which are
Handsome Ombre Strip'd Glace Silks,
Paris, Chena Strp'd do do
Solid Plads and Strip'd do do
Gro D'Rhine, Handsome Silk Robes, all colors, some very fine; Printed Bareges, all colors,
do Grenadines,
do Organdies,
do do Robes.
A large and handsome lot of Embroideries, Collars and Under Sleeves, &c.; Plain and Embroidered L. C. Handerchiefs; Kid Gloves; Bonnets, Ribbons, Hooped Skirts, Embroidered Skirting &c.; Ready-Made Clothing, Boots, Gaiters, &c. &c.
With many other articles not enumerated.
PETER CROW.
March 29, 1856. 116-tf

Fine Spring Stock
OF
READY-MADE CLOTHING.
GREENTREE & BARNUM
RESPECTFULLY inform their friends, and the public generally, that they have now on hand one of the best Stocks of Ready-Made Clothing ever offered to the citizens of Fayetteville and surrounding country, consisting in part of
Coats, Pants, Vests, Shirts, Collars, Cravats, Boots, Shoes—in fact, every thing that is considered necessary to adorn the gentleman.
ALSO,
A first-rate Stock of Boys' and Youths' Clothing.
All the above Goods will be sold on the most reasonable terms for cash.
April 12, 1856. 118-2m

NOTICE.
FROM and after this date the Brothers' Steam Boat Company, will not be responsible for any damages or loss on way Freight, unless the consignee or his agent, is on the river bank when the goods are delivered, to make his objection or claim.
A. D. CAZAUX, Agent
Brothers' Steam Boat Company.
Jan. 10, 1856. 105-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 8. 118-tf

SPEECH OF
HON. HENRY M. FULLER,
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
May 10, 1856.
[CONCLUDED.]

While members of the House and others have been engaged in representing me to the people of the South as an Abolitionist, a portion of the public press of the North have, on the contrary, assigned me another position—that of a pro-slavery propagandist. Under other circumstances I should be disposed to suffer these antagonistic assumptions to answer each other; but as considerable surprise, real or affected, was expressed here and elsewhere, because of my position, and many gentlemen for whose opinion I have great respect, have taken different views of public duty, I am induced, now that the smoke of the conflict has passed away, calmly and dispassionately to review the past, to reexamine my own position, to ascertain if I am really changed—if I have become suddenly translated, and made unconsciously to wheel into some new orbit of political relation.

My declaration, in substance, was, that I would vote for the admission of States without reference to the question of slavery. What is the past history of the Government? Eighteen new States have been admitted—nine free, nine slave. It has thus been nine times solemnly affirmed, that it is no objection to the admission of a State that its constitution recognizes slavery. It has been as often affirmed that it is no objection to the admission of a State that its constitution prohibits slavery.

The proposition to admit a State with or without slavery has thus been eighteen times, in the history of the Government, solemnly affirmed. It stands upon the solid basis of repeated sanction. There is no principle more firmly established. President Taylor took the ground, with reference to California and New Mexico, that the people of the Territories should decide the question of slavery for themselves, when they came to form their State constitutions. In his annual message to Congress, in December, 1849, he recommended even *non-action* as to the establishment of territorial governments for New Mexico and Utah, preferring that the people of those Territories should live under military government until they were entitled to settle their own domestic policy by forming State constitutions, and be admitted into the Union as States; and these recommendations were strongly reiterated by him in his so called California message on the 21st of January, 1850.

This policy of General Taylor was sustained by leading popular journals at the North. The New York Courier and Enquirer, edited then, as now, by a gentleman of admitted ability and of wide reputation, in May, 1820, held the following language:

"What is the precise point in controversy? The North insists upon positive legislation *precluding* slavery. The South insists upon positive legislation *recognizing* slavery, either in terms or by silence. The wise course would seem to be, to let the people themselves to legislate upon the matter to suit themselves. General Taylor does "design to disclose" the operation by which the evil will be cured. He proposes a resort to the fundamental principle of republicanism—the right of the people to govern themselves. In this he takes ground coincident exactly with that of the South in 1847, when Mr. Calhoun asserted the *right* of the inhabitants of the Territories to just such self-government as the President proposes to give them. Is this doing nothing? Is there in this no remedy for the evil? Is there any man, any party, or any section, which can justly complain of this policy? Does it violate the rights, or disregard the interests, of any section? *And is not the principle upon which it is based, which gives to it vitality and strength, the principle that the people of every community have a right to make their own local laws, one which ought to command the assent of every section, and of every citizen of this republic?*"

The North American, of Philadelphia, also then and now one of the leading public journals in my State, edited by a gentleman of distinguished ability, in many able and eloquent articles advocates *the non-action policy* of General Taylor; and upon the discussion of that "good and honest man," held the following language:

"In the midst of the gloom, however, which the death of General Taylor has caused, it is consoling to know that the position he lately occupied in public affairs has been assumed by a man (Millard Fillmore) of the highest personal integrity, of unquestionable patriotism, and of such views of public policy as will insure, so far as his action can accomplish those great ends, prosperity and peace to the country." * * * * "Representing a party, he will nevertheless prove true to the interests of the entire nation; *and by maintaining the policy—the broad, comprehensive, wise, and just policy—marked out by President Taylor, he will secure to himself the esteem and affection of the people.* In our grief for the untimely and irreparable loss of the great and good man who has been called away from us, it is a grateful reflection that his official robes have fallen upon one who deserves to succeed him."

Similar extracts, from these and other leading papers at the North, might be multiplied *ad infinitum*.

Now, I have felt it my duty, with reference to slavery in the States and Territories, to declare in favor of the doctrine of "non-intervention."

"The head and front of my offending
Hath this extent—no more."

Yet I am denounced with having abandoned the cherished principles of my State and party; and sober, sensible gentlemen will now declare that their right eyes shall be plucked out, and their right arm suffered to wither, before they will indorse any such abominable doctrine. *The political sky is changed.*

Let us inquire what was said by distinguished gentlemen from Pennsylvania belonging to the Whig party, in 1850, upon this subject.

On the 15th of June, 1850, Mr Inge, of Alabama, offered a proposition in these words:

"That the people of any portion of said territory, when assembled in convention, in pursuance of constitutional authority, to frame a State constitution, have a right to adopt or exclude African slavery, and their determination of this question, by the adoption or exclusion of African slavery, shall be no obstacle to the admission of such a State into the Union."

This proposition led to discussion, in which Messrs. Chester, Butler, and Joseph Cassey, from my State, participated.

Mr. Butler, in a speech made by him, June 8, 1850, expressed himself as follows:

* * * "He admitted fully the right of the people to form their constitution to suit themselves, and when formed, they were entitled to come here and claim admission as a State into the Union; and that there is a pro-slavery clause in their State constitution, forms no insuperable objection with him to such admission, nay more than that an anti-slavery clause in her fundamental law shall form such objection. *He believed such to be the sentiments of his constituents; and so far as his expression of the views he entertained may have an influence, he was willing to let it go, with the hope and expectation that it may be sustained by those who hereafter represent those constituents on this floor.*

"Such States have a right to come in on an equality with the old States, and to enjoy all the benefits and be subject to all the compromises of the Constitution. * * * "He thought if all parties would lay aside their passions and prejudices, and give fair and full expression to their real sentiments, the proposition to permit a State to come into the Union, with a republican constitution, the work of her own hands, recognizing or excluding slavery, as she thought best, would receive an almost unanimous vote here. The discussion this morning has furnished cheering evidence that such would be the result."

"But whether this would be so or not, Mr. B. thought there was no use in quarreling about it, and that nothing was to be gained by refusing to admit a State on this ground. Suppose a State should offer herself with a constitution containing a clause permitting slavery, and Congress should strike out the clause and then admit her, could she not, as soon as she could call a convention of her citizens, after her constitution, reinstate the pro-slavery clause, and admit slavery? If she does so, would she not still be a State of the Union, on an equality with the other States? There is no doubt of this, nor that, if a State (California for instance) should be admitted with an anti-slavery clause, she could immediately afterwards change her constitution in this respect, and become a slave State. Mr. B. did not see when there would be any remedy even if Ohio or any other State which came into the Union under the operation of the ordinance of 1787 should change her constitution and become a slave State. If she did, however, it might be a breach of that compact, but Senators and Representatives would not be turned away from the doors of the Capitol as intruders, having no right there. No, sir; she would still be a State of the Union, with the rights of a sovereign State. He would add, it is true, the admission of a slave State carries with it that feature of the Constitution respecting representation which is so objectionable to some. Slaves cannot vote, though three fifths of them are represented; this is fixed by the Constitution under which we all live; and however much any gentleman may wish it otherwise, it is not such an objection as would influence him to vote against the admission of a State."

Mr. Casey, another able and eloquent Representative, expressed the same views, as follows:

"And I ask leave to inquire of the gentleman, whether his proposition is intended to apply to all the territories acquired by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, or whether it is intended to apply merely to the Territories embraced in the amendment offered by the gentleman from Missouri?

"Mr. INGE. The proposition is confined expressly to the Territories embraced in the amendment of the gentleman from Missouri. It has no reference to any other.

"Mr. CASEY. I am in favor of the principle; but if that is the intention and view with which the amendment is offered, I am opposed to it.

"Mr. INGE. I will say that the principle is true in its application to all the Territories.

"Mr. Casey. If it is made to apply to all, I will vote for the proposition; and I take occasion to say, in my place, that if California had come here with a recognition of slavery in her constitution, I should have voted for her admission, if there were no other objection. I said so the other day in answer to the gentleman from Kentucky; I said that if New Mexico comes here recognizing slavery in her constitution, I will vote for her admission. I am not deterred from the assertion of a principle by an appeal to my constituents anywhere. I have avowed myself here, and at home, and everywhere, against nullism." * * * * * * "I am in favor of the President's plan, which the gentleman from Tennessee has alluded to. I tell him, sir, that I am not afraid to assert the principle embraced in that plan."

Such were the views of Messrs. Butler and Casey, and such the position taken even by Senator Seward, in his celebrated California speech. * * * "In that speech that distinguished gentleman declared, in reply to a question put to him by Senator Foote, of Mississippi, as follows: "I reply, as I said before, that, *even if California had come as a slave State,*" * * * "*I should have voted for her admission.*" It is true, he afterwards said he should vote to admit no more slave States, *unless "under circumstances absolutely necessary."*—This is a qualification, so far as his own action is concerned; but he concedes the principle announced in Mr. Inge's resolve; and, conceding that, no qualification as to what he might deem "circumstances absolutely necessary" can change his position, so far as the principle is concerned. I made no qualification or reservation, for the simple reason that, if the principle be correct, it will admit of none.

In declaring my sentiments upon the floor of the House, I could not justly be charged with having in view any increased suffrage or any expectation of an election. I knew then, full well, the opinions I announced would not accord with the prevailing sentiment here. I knew full well that my declaration would be seized upon by enemies at home, whose interest it was to

"Distort the truth, accumulate the lie,
And pile the pyramid of calumny,"

the more industriously to carry on their work of abuse, misrepresentation, and detraction. As no measure of prospective censure deterred me then, so no degree of multiplied reproach has disturbed me since. I could not—I would not—surrender my personal independence, or purchase popularity at the price of my convictions. I was prepared to adopt *this* declaration of the great Senator of Massachusetts, the expounder of the Constitution:

"I shall know but our country. The ends I aim at, by the blessing of God, shall be my country's, my God's, and truth's. I was born an American, I live an American, and I shall die an American; but I mean to the extent of my abilities, to perform the duties incumbent upon me in that character, whether public or private, to the end of my career; and I mean to do this with an absolute disregard of personal consequences. What are personal consequences? What is the amount of all the good or evil that could befide an individual, in comparison with the good or evil which, in a crisis like this, may happen to a great nation?—Sir, let the consequences be what they may to me, I am careless. No man can hardly suffer too much, and no man can fall too soon, if he suffers or if he falls in defense of the liberties and the Constitution of his country."

In conclusion, I am in favor of liberty—constitutional freedom—freedom North and freedom South. I will draw no lines of social or physical geography across this continent of ours. No river or mountain by any act of mine shall ever divide the affections of the American people. The Territories of the Union, acquired by common blood and common treasure I would have free to the natural and unrestrained occupation of northern and of southern men. As in time of war they marched to battle side by side, and shoulder to shoulder, so now in time of peace let them move arm in arm to the possession of a common heritage—let the hardy pioneers of all sections press forward with their families, with their implements of industry, with their bibles and their school-books, with whatever else under the laws and the Constitution they may possess, to reclaim the wilderness, to make for themselves homes, to establish well regulated liberty, to build up a common country, and perpetuate a great American nationality. Above all, let them *hold fast* to the Union. In it alone there is strength, there is power, there is glory. With it we have nothing to fear; without it, nothing to hope.

Let us, then, each and all, resolve, with "steadfast and inflexible purpose, to preserve against all enemies, and with our hearts' best blood, this glorious Union indissoluble and forever."

APPENDIX.

(1.)

Letter addressed to Harry Connelly, Esq., of Philadelphia, before the meeting of Congress, and since published in the newspapers.

WILKESBARRE, *Wednesday, November* 21, 1855.

MY DEAR SIR Absence from home has delayed reply to your esteemed favor of the 12th instant.

In regard to my opinion in the matter to which your letter refers, I will simply remark, that I supported the compromise measures of 1850, and have not changed my views upon the subject they embraced.

The question of slavery I have ever been disposed to leave with the people of the States where it exists.—Knowing that its discussion heretofore has been productive of evil and mischief, I am opposed to its further agitation. Had I been a member of the last Congress, I would have voted against the repeal of the Missouri compromise. My opinions having been overruled in this matter, I shall abide by the law as it is.

I am making a hurried preparation to leave for Washington. I hope to see you about Tuesday of next week. Hastily, yours, truly,

HENRY M. FULLER.

(2.)

[From the Montour American, of January 15, 1856.

"This, we presume, is the ground occupied by Hon. Henry M. Fuller. He regards abolitionism or slavery propagandism, as no part of our creed as members of the American party; but owing to the contradictory statements in reference to the position of that gentleman, we refrained from applauding or censuring his course; and while Mr. Fuller may express opinions contrary to our own, yet we have unshaken confidence in his integrity and in his devotion to the great principles that lie at the foundation of the American party, nor can we believe that he would abandon the ground on which he was elected for any place in the gift of Congress—*knowing, too, that the doctrines of non-intervention on the subject of slavery were indorsed by him previous to his election.*"

(3.)

Extract from the Debates of Mr. Randolph's proposition in the Virginia House of Delegates, for the gradual abolition of slavery, in January, 1832.

"Mr. Bolling, of Buckingham, said: This is a grave and important subject—one that ought to be, and will be, considered. Its importance demands that it should be considered and debated here, and is not, as some gentlemen think, a reason that it should be passed in silence, and acted upon in secret. No, sir, our action should be calm and dispassionate: but open, bold, and manly. Sir, that it is an evil, a great and appalling evil, he deed believe no sane man would or could deny.

"Nor, sir, can it be denied that it deprives us of many of those advantages, facilities, and blessings which we should enjoy, had we a more dense white population. That it is a blighting, withering curse upon this land is clearly demonstrated by this very discussion itself.

"Notwithstanding eastern gentlemen had waxed so warm, there are many, very many in Eastern Virginia who had rather resign their slaves gratuitously, than submit to the ills of slavery; many who had rather turn them loose and leave them behind, while they should seek a happier clime—a land alike a stranger to slaves and slavery.

"Mr. Marshall, of Fauquier, said: The utmost latitude of debate had already been tolerated, and no injury could now accrue from a temperate expression of his sentiments on the general question. He felt himself at liberty to say that he was opposed to slavery as a practical evil. He objected to slavery, not because it implies moral turpitude, or because it is a sin to be the owner of a slave. If it be a sin, let it fall on those who introduced the evil and have transmitted it to their offspring." * * * "Wherefore, then, oppose slavery? Because it is noxious to the whites, retards improvement, roots out an industrious population, banishes the yeomanry of the country; deprives the spinner, the weaver, the smith, the shoemaker, the carpenter, of employment and support.—Our towns are stationary, our villages almost everywhere declining, and the general aspect of the country marks the curse of a wasteful, idle, reckless population, who have no interest in the soil, and care not how much it is impoverished.

"Mr. Chandler, of Norfolk, took occasion to observe that he believed the people of Norfolk county would rejoice could they, even in the vista of time, see some scheme for the gradual removal of this curse from our land. He was desirous to see a report from the committee declaring the slave population an evil, and recommending to the people of this Commonwealth the adoption of some plan for its riddance.

"Mr. Berry, of Jefferson: Sir, I believe that no cancer on the physical body was ever more certain, steady, and fatal in its progress, than is this cancer on the political body of the State of Virginia. I admit that we are not to be blamed for the origin of this evil among us; we are not to be blamed for its existence now; but we shall deserve the severest censure if we do not take measures, as soon as possible, to remove it.

"Mr. Faulkner, of Berkeley: Sir, there is one point in which I do most sincerely agree with those who are arrayed against me in this discussion. It is that the proposed inquiry is one of great delicacy and transcendent importance. The revolution which agitated this Commonwealth fifty years ago, great and important as it was, involved in its results but a change of our political relations with the mother country. This measure, should it prove successful—and that it must sooner or later, no individual in this House can now reasonably doubt—must involve in its consequences a moral, physical, and political revolution in this State; a revolution which will be beneficially felt by every great interest in the Commonwealth, and by every slave-holding State upon this continent. I shall ever reckon it amongst the proudest incidents of my life that I have contributed my feeble aid to forward a revolution so grand and patriotic in its results. The idea of a gradual emancipation and removal of the slaves from this Commonwealth is coeval with the declaration of your independence of the British yoke. It sprung into existence during the first session of the General Assembly subsequent to the formation of your Republican Government. It was proper; there was a fitness of things in the fact that so beneficent an object as the plan for the gradual extinction of slavery in this State should have been the twin offspring of that mind which gave birth to the bill of rights and to the act for religious freedom. A fact so honorable to the public spirit and humanity of that age, so worthy of the genius and expanded philanthropy of those with whom it originated, cannot be too often recurred to, nor too proudly cherished. Slavery, it is admitted, is an evil. It is an institution which presses heavily against the best interests of the State. Being thus injurious, have we not a right to demand its extermination?

"Mr. McDowell, of Rockbridge: We know that the blessings of our position, and soil, and climate, are counteracted by the apathy of our public counsels, and by our exclusive reliance upon voluntary labor.—Our interests and sensts proclaim the progress of general decline; conscience and experience attest that slavery is its principal cause. Do we not contemplate Virginia justly when we regard her as meager, haggard, enfeebled, with decrepitude stealing upon her limbs, as given over to leanness and impotency, and as wasting away under the improvidence and the inactivity which eternally accompany the fatal institution which she cherishes, and cherishes, too, as a mother who will hazard her own life rather than part even with the monstrous offspring that afflicts her? If I am to judge from the tone of our debate, and from the concessions on all hands expressed, there is not a man in this body—not one, perhaps, that is even represented here—who would not have thanked the generations that have gone before us, if, acting as public men, they had brought this bondage to a close; who would not have thanked them, if, acting as private men, on private motives, they had relinquished the property which their mistaken kindness has devolved upon us. In this investigation there is no difficulty; nothing has been left to speculation or inquiry; for, however widely gentlemen have differed upon the power and the justice of touching this property, they have yet united in a common testimony to its character. *It has been frankly and unanimously declared, from the very commencement of this debate, by the most decided enemies of abolition themselves, as well as by others, that this property is 'an evil'—that it is a dangerous property.*"

WILKESBARRE, *September* 12th, 1849.

MY DEAR SIR: I observe in the Pennsylvanian of yesterday, a copy of which I send you herewith, a publication purporting to be a private letter, written by Henry M. Fuller to you, under date of 18th August, ultimo.

But a few days prior to the departure of Mr. Fuller, on his canvass of the State, he exhibited to me a letter addressed to you, on the subject of the probable action to be taken by your convention, soon to meet at Hyde Park; but really, sir, I am unable to recognize in the letter now published hardly a feature of the original.

Standing in the relation of a personal and political friend of Mr. Fuller, I deem it my duty, in his absence, to call your attention to the publication, and request that you will, at the earliest convenient date, furnish me with such an explanation as the facts of the case must certainly warrant.

I cannot believe that you would become a party to so gross a fraud upon the public, as be instrumental in such a groundless misrepresentation of Mr. Fuller's views; and I confidently hope that you will be able to give me a full and satisfactory explanation.

With sentiments of high regard, I am very truly, &c.,
GARRICK M. HARDING.

F. SAXTON, Esq., *Archibald, Pa.*,

ARCHIBALD, *September* 13, 1849.

MY DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 12th instant is before me. I am exceedingly mortified about this matter, and angry also; and more angry than mortified. Mr. Fuller wrote me a private letter about the middle of last month, which has been stolen from my possession; I cannot tell how, nor by whom, though I have my suspicions. The published letter has been most *dreadfully* altered, and made considerably stronger than when I saw it. I will try to set it right. I wish you would write to Mr. Fuller and explain it as without explanation he will think very meanly of me.

My acquaintance with Mr. F. is limited, having only met him on two or three occasions at the Wayne county courts. From what I have seen and heard of him, I have taken a liking to him, and mean to help him. We'll try and pay off these scurvy rascals for putting this trick upon me. Fuller ought to be elected, and I think he will be. If he was only a Democrat, he would knock the spots off from these fellows. We can't make much impression on our side, as I understand Gamble goes all in on our Free Soil views. Still, we will do all we can, and I shall work all the harder now. If you should be coming up this way before the election, I should like to have you call: I want to explain this matter more fully. When will Fuller be back? It would do good if he would come up here.

Yours, &c., F. SAXTON.

To G. M. HARDING, *Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania.*

(5.)

ARCHIBALD, *March* 26, 1850.

MY DEAR SIR: My attention has recently been called to a letter published in the Luzerne Union purporting to have been written by you in August, 1849, to Mr. D. F. Saxton, [illegible] place. It appears to me there must be some [illegible] ke about this matter. Just previous to your [illegible] on for Canal Commissioner, I well remember [illegible] le Saxton, a lawyer of this place, (and no o[illegible] ton has ever resided here,) exhibited to me a [illegible] om you to him, but, to the best of my recollecti[illegible] very different one from that now published. A short time after, he informed me that the letter had been s[illegible]en, altered, and published in Philadelphia. That publication, however, I never saw; but th[illegible] more recent o[illegible] the Luzerne Union, I have read, as well as the c[illegible] of the press thereon. I deem it but justice to [illegible]tate my recollection of this matter. There [illegible] the best of my recollection, any mention of [illegible] not proviso in your letter. You did express [illegible] If adverse to slavery extension, but did not a[illegible]y sympathy with the Free Soil party; and being myself, at that time, a member of that party, and knowing well your political sentiments, I may say, truthfully, I do not believe you felt any sympathy for us. If I remember aright, the main object of your letter was to influence Mr. Saxton to exert himself to prevent any nomination or any distinct party action by the Free Soilers whatever. I have known your political sentiments ever since you entered upon political life; they have always been moderate and conservative—never ultra or extreme. You have always been known distinctively as a Whig—a conservative Whig—but never as an Abolitionist, or as having entertained any Abolition tendencies or sentiments. I make these remarks to you for the reason that my name was alluded to in the letter to Saxton; and from the fact of my having seen the letter, my silence might be construed as evidence that the letter, as published in the Union, was a true copy of the original. I have no doubt but that the letter, as published in that paper, has been materially altered.

I am, truly yours, JOHN P. FARNHAM.

Hon. HENRY M. FULLER.

(6.)

WILKESBARRE, *August* 18, 1849.

MY DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 15th instant was duly received, and the matter of Mr Hackley shall have immediate attention. I will write you fully in a few days. Let us have a little private talk on the subject of our State election. You state that a Free Soil convention will meet at Hyde Park on the 30th instant, and that you will attend as a delegate. The Whig convention met in Harrisburg day before yesterday. We have received no intelligence yet, but will this evening or in the morning. My friends here are confident of my nomination. I have really very little feeling on the subject. The office is not to my liking—still, if nominated, I shall desire an election. If your friends should persist in maintaining a distinct organization, and make a separate nomination, as has been suggested, it will do injury. You say you are friendly, and desire to aid my election. I believe you are so, and would suggest, therefore, that you prevail upon your friends to make no nomination. How this is to be accomplished, you will best understand—perhaps by resolution; consult with our mutual friends, Farnham and Hackley—they are both substantial sensible men, and competent to advise in the matter. On the subject of free soil, I believe our people here and every where are in favor of free labor and free men. I certainly am opposed to extending slavery, and desire whatever can rightly be done to restrain or ameliorate it should be done.

It is an exciting question, calculated to produce much inflamation and extreme opinions. I would avoid undue excitement, but at the same time insist upon the rights and interests of my *section*, doing no injustice to any other. But enough of this—ours is a State canvass, and this question can hardly be considered an issue. If I should be nominated by the Harrisburg convention, my chief desire in securing the election will be to obtain a popular endorsement of the measure I advocated in the Legislature last winter, and about which we had so much trouble—the completion of the North Branch Canal; its completion, in my judgment, will not only be of large benefit to us here, but very materially increase the State revenue. It is destined to do a large business. Its merits are not understood. I shall stump the State, probably, and talk to the people on that subject.

Let me hear from you soon.

Yours, respectfully, H. M. FULLER.

F. SAXTON, Esq., *Archibald, Pennsylvania.*

(7.)

Resolution of the Democratic State Convention of Pennsylvania, at Pittsburg, in 1849.

"*Resolved*, That the Democratic party adhere now, as it ever has done, to the Constitution of the country. Its letter and spirit they will neither weaken nor destroy, and they re-declare that slavery is a local, domestic institution of the South, subject to State alone, and with which the General Government has nothing to do. Wherever the State law extends its jurisdiction the local institution can continue to exist. *Esteeming it a violation of State rights to carry it beyond State limits*, we deny the power of any citizen to extend the area of bondage beyond its present dominion; nor do we consider it a part of the compromise of the Constitution that slavery should forever travel with the advancing column of our territorial progress."

(8.)

From the Pennsylvanian, September 10, 1849.

"It is a long period of time since we have been more gratified than by the indication of a spirit of conciliation contained in the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That Congress possesses legislative power over the subject of slavery in the Territories of the United States, and ought so to exercise that power as effectually to prevent the establishment or sufferance of slavery. Whilst we thus re-affirm these principles, we concede to our Democratic brethren of the South the same freedom of thought and of expression which we claim for ourselves," &c.

WILKESBARRE, *September* 12th, 1849.

MY DEAR SIR: I observe in the Pennsylvanian of yesterday, a copy of which I send you herewith, a