

Hillsborough Recorder.

UNION, THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS—THE GUARDIANS OF OUR LIBERTY.

Vol. XL.

HILLSBOROUGH, N. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1859.

No. 1992.

COFFINS! COFFINS!

E. B. WAITE,
CHAPEL HILL, N. C.
HAVING obtained the exclusive right for Orange County, to sell **W. H. WAITE'S PATENT BURIAL CASES**, would respectfully announce that he is now prepared to fill all orders for these **air-tight, indestructible** Burial Cases.
All descriptions and sizes of Common Coffins also kept on hand.
The Metallic Burial Cases will also be kept for sale by D. D. Phillips, Hillsborough, Chapel Hill, March 4. 81-6m

GRAY BROTHERS'
LATEST IMPROVED
Steel Rod Door & Gate Spring,
WITH THEIR
Newly Invented Graduating Bracket.
Patented Jan. 11, 1859.

GRAY BROTHERS, in attaching their Newly Invented Graduating Bracket to their "old and well known Door and Gate Spring," are fully convinced the article now offered combines all the requisites of a perfect Spring, and is really superior to any thing now in the market, and claims this superiority for the following reasons:
1. Accuracy in operation.
2. Facility in operation.
3. Adaptability to any kind of Door or Gate.
4. Least liable to get out of order.
5. Most Durable and powerful.
6. Cheapest and most simple.
These Door and Gate Springs are kept on hand for sale by E. B. WAITE, Chapel Hill, and D. D. PHILLIPS, Hillsborough, March 4. 81-6m

NOTICE.

THE subscribers having qualified at February term, 1859, of Orange Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, as administrators on the estate of Dr. B. L. DURHAM, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and settle the same; and those having claims against the estate to present them within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be filed in bar of their recovery.
F. A. STAGG,
F. A. DAVIES.

TO MULE RAISERS.

THE subscribers, after much trouble and expense have succeeded in procuring one of the largest and finest JACKS ever imported into this country. **BARHAW** will stand the ensuing season, commencing the 1st of March, at the stables of J. B. LEATHERS, and will render service at the low price of ten dollars to insure, and fifty cents to the groom in all cases.
DESCRIPTION.—Barhaw was imported direct from Malta, in Spain; will be five years old next August; is full fourteen and a half hands high, of fine form and action, with a rich black silky coat of hair. It is only necessary for judges of such stock to see him to be convinced that he is of the purest blood.
J. B. LEATHERS,
J. W. LATTA.

TO MULE RAISERS.

MY Jack Simon, Par, will stand the ensuing season, and include the full season, at his stable, seven miles north of Hillsborough. I do not intend to send him any where else. Price for insurance five dollars each, the money due when the fact is ascertained, or the property changed. All possible care will be taken to prevent accidents, but no responsibility for any that may happen.
DESCRIPTION.—Simon Par will be seven years old in June; is a sure footed gaiter, and is to mount as good a colt as any other Jack. He is very nice fourteen hands high, and of excellent form. I have the certificate of John A. Vines, the gentleman of whom I obtained the Jack, who says he is from a fine family of Jacks as any in the eastern part of the State. His dam was the largest Jenny I ever saw, and she black as a crow.
TYRE B. RAY.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All notes and accounts contracted previous to 1st January, 1859, with us, were due at that time. We expect them to be closed **without failure** at February Court.
J. C. TURRENTINE & SON.
February 22, 1859.

Revival of Business.

HAVING concluded to remain in Hillsborough and continue my business, my old customers will find me on the east of "The Brick House," my former shop. My work shall be well and fashionably done, and all my cutting job prepared so that the seamstress shall find no difficulty in making.
All work executed at the shortest notice.
JAMES S. WATSON.

SUNDRIES.

EXTRACT of Pine Apple, Extract of Banana, White Pepper, Fragrant Sachets, Fragrant Perfumes, Javon's Hair Tonic, White and Colored Tissue Paper, for sale at the
DRUG STORE.
September 1.

KING'S MOUNTAIN IRON.

I HAVE now on hand for sale Twelve Thousand pounds of the above iron, which has heretofore given such general satisfaction, and the same for fire and planation use, Square, Band, &c. &c.
The assortment will be kept complete, and sold at lowest rate.
JAMES WEBB, Agent
of King's Mountain Iron Co.
December 14.

A CARD.

D. ROBERTSON, DENTIST,
HAVING located in Chapel Hill, respectfully offers his professional services to the citizens of the town and surrounding country. He can produce satisfactory testimonials of his skill in the profession.
His office is at Dr. Moore's. When requested, families will be waited on at their residences. Charges reasonable.
Dr. R. will be in Hillsborough the fourth week in each month, also Superior Court weeks, and often (without extra charge) if requested.
August 19. 62

BACON.

A CAPITAL LOT of Sides, Shoulders and Hams.
For sale by
J. C. TURRENTINE & SON.
May 16. 91-

CASH AND BARTER Exchange.

The subscriber has opened one door above "The Printing Office," where he intends keeping a full stock of Groceries, Clothing, Staple Dry Goods, and many other articles, for which Cash or Barter "alone" will be taken. Wheat, Flour, Corn, Bacon, Lard, Butter, Chickens, Eggs, Tallow, Beeswax, Flaxseed, Feathers, Dried Fruit, Tow and Cottons, Wool Yarns, &c., bought or sold on commission.
D. C. PARKS.
April 13. 86-

1859. Spring Trade. 1859.

STEVENSON, WEDDELL & CO.,
IMPORTERS AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods,
No. 78 and 80 Sycamore Street,
PETERSBURG, VA.

ARE now receiving, and will have in store by the first of March,
A very large and attractive Stock of
GOODS
in their line, to which they respectfully invite the attention of the North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee Trade.
Orders executed with dispatch.
Petersburg, Va. Feb. 21. 82-

Wholesale Shoe Trade.

1859. SPRING. 1859.

WILSON, McILWAINE & CO.
SUCCESSORS TO
W. R. JOHNSON,
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
Boots, Shoes, Trunks, Paper, &c.
No. 66 by camore Street,
PETERSBURG, VA.

BEG leave to announce to the former patrons of the house and the trade generally, that they are now in receipt of their SPRING STOCK, purchased for cash direct from the manufacturers.
Possessing increased facilities for conducting the business, they with confidence ask the attention of buyers to their stock, which is large and varied.
They will give prompt personal attention to all orders, and forward the goods without delay.
JOHN B. WILSON,
JOHN McILWAINE,
R. W. ROBERTS.

DE ROSSET, BROWN & CO.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

BROWN, DE ROSSET & CO.

NEW YORK.

Commission Merchants.

Particular attention given to the sale of Naval Stores, Cotton and other Produce.
April 20. 87-

NEW GOODS.

April, 1859.

I AM now opening one of the Largest and Best Stock of Goods ever offered in this place, which I can sell on very accommodating terms.
The stock embraces nearly every article wanted in this market, and I shall keep my assortment complete by frequent additions whenever goods are wanted.
JAMES WEBB.
April 5. 85-

CRINOLINE.

Expressly for Skirts, Embroidered Skirts, also, Brass and Whalebone Hoops, and Elastic Belts,
J. C. TURRENTINE & SON.
September 16. 66-

JONES'S KEROSENE LAMPS.

A NEW lot of these improved lamps, which do not go out when exposed to a current of air, and by a process of reduction save at least one third of the oil, over the common lamps. Also, the common Kerosene lamps. Jones's lamps are kept only by us.
J. C. TURRENTINE & SON.
October 6. 60-

CHOICE CALF SKINS, Shoe Thread and Shoe Nails,

J. C. TURRENTINE & SON.
December 5. 17-

PRIME Sweet New Crop MOLASSES and fresh RICE;

also 136 sacks fine SALT, at \$2.50 cash. One of Grover & Baker's Best Family Sewing Machines, which I have tried and proved, now on hand and for sale.
JAMES WEBB.
Jan. 26. 71-

RAGS! RAGS!!! RAGS!!!

RAGS WANTED,
J. C. TURRENTINE & SON.
November 28. 17-

DRIED APPLES and Peaches wanted;

the highest market price paid by
J. C. TURRENTINE & SON.
August 16. 53-

Clover, Lucerne, Timothy and Herds Grass Seeds,

For sale by
JAMES WEBB.
February 22. 72-

GUANO.

I HAVE made arrangements to keep a constant supply of pure Peruvian GUANO, and Rhode's SUPER PHOSPHATE of LIME, at very low prices.
JAMES WEBB.
February 23. 73-

50 CASKS of LIME for sale low for Cash.

Also COFFEE, Sugar, and many other desirable articles.
JAMES WEBB.
June 25. 84-

BLANKS for Sale at this Office.

THE BEAUTIFUL DECOY.

It is well known to all in any degree familiar with the history of Mexico, that a regular system of highway robbery exists in every section of that miserably governed country; and that through a want of interference of the authorities, this has grown up into such a regular and formidable shape, that every traveler must be prepared to put his life at hazard at every stage, or be provided with a suitable contribution for *los caballeros del camino* (the knights of the road), who, in the event of finding you prepared and willing, will make their levy with a politeness only equalled by the smiling landlord, when he receives your overcharged fare for last night's entertainment. Why such systematic boldness of robbery is allowed—if not with the connivance, at least with rarely any interference of the government or state authorities—is one of those mysterious matters which among many others so puzzles and perplexes the intelligent foreigners, but that such is the disgraceable truth, every traveler through that wretched country can bear ample testimony.

Some years ago, having business which first called me to the capital of Mexico, and thence through the interior of the country to the northward, I met with several thrilling adventures, which I have recorded for the benefit of whomsoever may take an interest therein, omitting only the dates, they being non-essential to the interest of the narrations themselves.

The first of the series occurred on the route between Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico. In the regular diligencia running between the places just mentioned, I had taken passage, and had passed through the beautiful city of Jalapa, and entered the gloomy town of Perote, without meeting with any unusual incident, though being continually warned to be on my guard against the dangers of the road. At Perote, where we halted for a relay and refreshments, all my fellow-passengers took leave of me, very solemnly assuring me that, if assailed by the *ladrones*, or robbers, it would be much better for me to take matters quietly, and suffer myself to be generally plundered, than to run the risk of having my throat cut for resistance, as I had myself boldly proclaimed it was my intention of doing. I thanked them for their advice, and replied that I would take the matter into serious consideration.

At Perote, I repeat, all who had been my companions from Vera Cruz took leave of me, this being the end of their journey in that direction, but there was one new passenger to go forward, whom, to my agreeable surprise, I found to be a beautiful young lady, some twenty years of age.

Senorita Paula, as I subsequently ascertained her name to be, was indeed one of those rare beauties seldom met with except in works of fiction—tall, graceful, with a profusion of long, black hair—soft, clear, melting dark eyes—features as perfect as ever came from the hands of the sculptor, and with an animation the most fascinating, varying in expression with every changing mood of the intellectual possessor. A glance at her bewitching dark eyes showed me that she was one who was naturally of a social disposition, and as we rattled away from the gloomy town, I took the liberty of opening a conversation.

"They tell me," said I, "that the route between here and Mexico is a very dangerous one to travel."
"There is little to fear," she replied, with a sweet smile and in a melodious tone, "except from the professional robbers, and they seldom harm any one who makes no resistance."
"It seems strange to me," I rejoined, "that you Mexicans should take such things as a matter of course, and deem resistance a very impolite way of treating the knights of the road, instead of boldly asserting your rights and abating the evil by a manly spirit of resistance. For myself, I must consider it the most cowardly of proceeding, for any respectable party to set out prepared to quietly gratify the cupidity of the *ladrones*, and unprepared to treat them to their just deserts."

"Every traveler, Senor," she replied, "should, before setting out, count the cost of his journey, and as of course it is natural he should value his life highly, it seems to me natural that he should pay a certain sum for positive safety rather than put that life in jeopardy. For instance, in traveling from Vera Cruz to Mexico, if he will first reckon that so much is the fare by the diligencia, and that so much will be required for entertainment on the way, and so much for the contingency you speak of, he will then have the exact cost between the two points; and if he will look at the whole as the sum total of his journey, he will not seem to be robbed by any one party more than another."

"That," I replied, "may be, I believe, the Mexican mode of doing business, but does not tally with the preconceived idea of us foreigners."
"But every one," replied the fair speaker, "should conform to the customs of the country he visits."
"And do you then go prepared for this highway robbery and have you no fear in thus journeying by yourself?"
"Well, Senor, what can I do? I am, as you perceive, an unprotected lady; who, for certain reasons, am required to make the journey between Perote and the Capital some twice or thrice a year, and you could not expect me to go prepared to resist an armed band! As to fear, I will not deny I have my share of that; but, so far, I have never met with any rough treatment, and of course I trust to the saints that my fortune will ever be as propitious."

"And you have really been robbed on your journey back and forth?" I inquired.
"I think I have paid my share to the *ladrones* for my transit through their country!" she laughed.

"And you expect to continue a repetition of the same for the rest of your life?"
"Who knows?" she replied. "At least I hope to be always prepared."
"And your fellow travelers," said I, "have you never seen any disposed to resist these unlawful acts?"
"Once, Senor, an American and an Englishman, who were in the same diligencia with me, fired upon the robbers, killing one and wounding two."
"And did the robbers fire back?"
"Yes, but fled immediately, but fortunately injured none of our party."
"As I should have expected," returned I, "you were not robbed on that occasion, I suppose?"
"We were not, Senor; but the two foreigners subsequently paid dearly for their resistance; for in journeying back and forth, both were killed, separate and at different times, near the same spot. You see those crosses by the side of the road, Senor?"
"I have observed them frequently, but here they seem to be much more numerous," I replied, looking forth from the vehicle.
"Each stands on the spot where some one has met a violent death," she rejoined; "and as we go along, we will call our attention to those which mark the places where the foreigners met their deaths."
"Do you know," said I, "that I am resolved to emulate their example, let the consequences be what they may?"
"Holy saints defend us!" she exclaimed; "you are not in earnest, Senor?"
"Seriously so, I assure you!"
"You would only bring certain death upon us both."
"Say, rather, I should lighten the expenses of the journey—for your knights of the road understand retreat as well as advance—and you yourself have acknowledged that firm resistance put them to flight at once."
"But there were numbers opposed to them, Senor, and you are only one."
"But fortunately I have a couple of revolvers, which, in two good hands, amount to some ten or a dozen shots, and my friends have repeatedly told me I am not a bad marksman."
"Ah! Santa Maria! you will think better of this, Senor—the very idea of resistance terrifies me!"
"But not the idea of robbers?"
"Because I have never met with violence."
We continued to converse in a similar strain for some time longer—my fair companion gradually changing the subject, and seeming much interested in myself. I learned that her family name was Valerde, that she was unmarried, that her father and brother were officers in the army, and so forth, and so on; and in return I gave her my own name, stated something of my history, business and prospects, and altogether became more communicative than I would advise any friend to be with any stranger of either sex in a strange country.

As we continued our journey, the conversation gradually changing from one thing to another, Senorita Paula suddenly brought it back to the point where it first opened.
"We are coming upon a dangerous part of the road," she said; "are you still resolved to defend yourself if assailed?"
"With your permission, Senorita?"
"I don't think it advisable," she replied, "but still if such is your intention, I think it no more than right that you should give me a chance to take a part in my defence, since my risk of danger will be as great as yours."
"And have you really the nerve, after all, to defend yourself?" I inquired.
"If I had the means, Senor."
"I have two pistols," said I; "if you will accept one of them it is at your service."
"You are very kind, Senor—but can I fire it?"
"With ease, Senorita; and producing one of my revolvers, I explained to her the manner in which it was to be used.
"And this you say, will shoot some half a dozen times?"
"I think it safe to calculate that five charges out of six will explode, Senorita."
"A very formidable weapon, indeed!" she replied; "and with such I can almost fancy we are safe. You have another, you say, like this?"
I produced it.
"What a beautiful invention!" she observed, reaching over and taking it from my hand. Then extending her hands, one revolver in each, she continued: "Armed like this one might almost count himself safe against a host! You say this is fired in this manner?" she proceeded, cocking one of the weapons as she spoke, and pointing it toward the road.
"Have a care, Senorita, or you will discharge it!"
The words were scarcely uttered, when her fingers pressed the trigger, and one of the barrels exploded with a sharp report. A minute after, and while I was gently chiding her, we heard a loud, quick tramp of horses, and several sharp, rapid exclamations. The next moment our conveyance was stopped suddenly and we saw ourselves surrounded by some eight or ten mounted men, one of whom, in a loud voice, exclaimed:—
"Yield, you prisoners, or die!"
"Quick, Senorita!" said I, extending my hand; "quick! in Heaven's name! give me one of those weapons, for now is the time for decisive action!"
"Nav," she replied, putting the weapons behind her, "you will be too hasty. Let them suppose we yield—let them open the door."
"O, no! it will then be too late!"
As I spoke, the door was suddenly thrown open, and three or four swarthy, heavily bearded men presented themselves to my view.
"Quick, Senorita, for the love of God!"

I cried, grasping at her arm.
"Hold she exclaimed, presenting one of my own revolvers at my head. "Resistance is useless—you are our prisoner!"
"Good God!" I exclaimed, perfectly astounded; "our prisoner, did you say? It is not possible that one so fair and lovely as yourself, is in any manner connected with these banditti!"
"It is even so, Senor," she replied with one of her most bewitching smiles, still keeping one of my own weapons turned against myself, and significantly pointing the other to the door. "You will oblige us by stepping forth and giving yourself into the care of these gentlemen who will see that you are treated as a brave man should be, but who will trouble you mean time for any little change and valuables you might have to spare!"
There seemed to be no help for it—the beautiful Senorita Paula Valerde was a spy and accomplice of the *ladrones*. She had entered the diligencia at Perote for no other purpose than to ascertain the exact condition of things inside, and be able to signalize her associates as she passed along, so that they might know exactly in what manner to conduct themselves, and make their work sure, without risk. By a simple stratagem she had obtained my arms, just at the point where she knew the attack would be made; and her discharge of the pistol as if by accident, was the sign to show them that all was secure.

"I acknowledge myself conquered by being outwitted?" said I, bowing to la Senorita.
Then turning to the robbers, who had now collected in a body, in front of the door of the diligencia, I continued:—
"Gentlemen, will you permit me to alight and make you some valuable presents? In the language of your country, all I have is yours."
The leader of the party bowed politely in return, and said, with a grim smile:—
"Si, Senor, we should be most happy to receive anything which so distinguished a traveler may have to bestow."
With this I quietly stepped from the vehicle; and one quick, searching glance put me in possession of the whole state of affairs. The diligencia had been stopped in a wild, gloomy place, and the driver was sitting carelessly on his box, taking every thing as a matter of course. He might also be an accomplice of the robbers, or he might not, but in either case there was but little hope of assistance from him—any attempt of the kind would certainly bring upon him a severe punishment, sooner or later. I glanced up and down the road, where it wound between dark, overshadowing trees, but discovered nothing to give me any hope. The robbers, some eight or ten in number, and all well armed, were collecting around me, part of them mounted, and the others standing on their feet, holding their mustangs by the bridle. Looking upon my case as a desperate one, so far as being plundered was concerned, I still retained my presence of mind, and now stood singly between numbers; but the idea of yielding tamely to this outrage was repugnant to my very nature, and I resolved to put the least favorable opportunity for defence and retaliation to the strongest test.

"Will you accept this purse?" said I, producing one that held several gold coins, and handing it to the chief of the *ladrones*.
"Thank you, Senor! you are very kind," he said, as he took it in his hand, with a polite bow, and chinked the money.
"This diamond pin may prove acceptable to your friend," I added, as I quietly removed it from the bosom of my shirt, and handed it to the gentleman on his left, who received it in the same polite manner. "This diamond ring I trust you will retain as a keepsake." I continued, drawing the jewel from my finger and presenting it to a third. "I beg your pardon, Senores," I pursued, glancing at the Senorita Paula, who, with my pistols still in her possession, was quietly standing within the diligencia, regarding the whole proceeding with one of her sweetest smiles. "I must not forget this beautiful lady!" "I have here," I went on, at the same time producing the article, "a very beautiful gold snuff box—set, as you perceive, with diamonds—will your ladyship honor me by accepting this, as a slight token of my regard for the pleasure afforded me by your company and conversation?"
"You are a very gallant gentleman, Senor," she laughed, taking the two revolvers in one fair hand, and presenting the other.
I reached the box towards her—but my hand trembled a little, and just as the present was about to touch her fingers, it slipped and fell between us!

"A thousand pardons, Senorita, for awkwardness," I said, as I bent down to pick it up.
Now was the all important moment—the moment of life and death! All were in a measure off their guard; and one quick, furtive glance showed me that the girl still held her weapons carelessly in one hand, with the other remaining extended for the prize. I lifted the box carefully; but as I raised myself, I gave a wild, starting yell; and as the Senorita started back, I, with the quickness of lightning, seized both weapons, and wrenched them from her.

To wheel and commence firing upon the party was now the work of a moment. The first shot fortunately stretched out the chief; the second took effect on the one nearest to him; and by the time the third had been sent to its mission, there arose one simultaneous yell of dismay, and the astounded robbers began to scatter in every direction. I had no disposition to follow them, however; another minute they might rally and turn upon me; and springing forward I grasped the reins of a frayed mustang, and vaulted into the saddle. One more glance around me showed me the Senorita Paula upon the body

of the chief, her laughter changed to grief, and some of the scattered warriors bringing their weapons to bear upon me.
"Adios, Senorita and Senor," said I, bitterly, "he laughs best who laughs last!"
The next moment I was rushing away down the road, the half-rallied robbers pouring after me a volley, but fortunately not touching their mark. They would doubtless have followed me in hot pursuit but for the wholesome dread they had of my still undischarged weapon. As it was, I escaped, and entered the town of Puebla in triumph; where, it is almost needless to add, a narrative of my exploit made me a hero and a lion, for the time. Here I sold my captured mustang and trappings, for enough to indemnify me for what I had disposed of in the way of presents, and the next day saw me an inside passenger of the same diligencia, en route for Mexico, where I arrived in safety, without any further event worthy of note.

What cause of the robbers and their beautiful accomplice I never learned; but the lesson taught me on that journey I have not forgotten; and during the remainder of my stay in that country no pretty woman ever had the honor to be my business confidante, or of getting possession of my trusty and un-failing revolvers.

Speech of Hon. Wm. C. Rives, IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND, May 3, 1859.

Mr. Rives began by remarking, that the habits and pursuits of his life, for many years past, had removed him entirely from scenes of political excitement. I have no desire, he said, again to engage in them. While I had a public duty to perform, I endeavored to discharge it honestly, faithfully, and to the best of my ability,—more anxious to serve than merely to please my constituents. Cherishing with sincerity the principles I brought with me into public life, I could not as an honest man, change them at the bidding of party. My services were no longer acceptable; and I have since lived a private citizen, contented and happy, with no complaints or regrets in the past—no aspirations in the future.

But, fellow citizens, I should be sorry to say that I have lived an unconcerned spectator of public events. In a free country, every citizen, the humblest and most obscure, as well as the highest, has a patriotic duty to perform in watching over and defending, according to his opportunities, the precious deposit of the public liberties. Candor compels me to declare that, from time to time, I have seen much cause for patriotic anxiety, but never so much as at the present moment.

It is this conviction which has induced me—I may say constrained me—not without many struggles against the force of habit and that love of retirement which grows stronger by every day's indulgence, to appear before you, in obedience to the flattering call that has been made upon me. I know how incapable I am of adding, by anything I can say, to the force of the many able and eloquent appeals that have been already addressed to the intelligence and manliness of the country. But powerless as my voice is, I feel that I should be recreant to the duty of a good citizen, if I were not to raise it in such a cause, while there may be one of my countrymen willing to listen to me.

I do not appear before you to plead for the triumph of a party. No, fellow citizens; it is for a higher cause which now demands the exertions of us all. A bad and unblushing corruption has invaded every department of our national administration, which if not promptly and vigorously checked by the sovereign rebuke of the people, must soon engulf the public liberty, as it is rapidly undermining the public morals.

The wisdom and valor of our ancestors bequeathed to us noble free institutions, which were intended to place the public liberty securely under the guardianship of the public virtue. It is these noble institutions, which during official abuses, emboldened by impunity, would now pervert to the destruction of liberty, by undermining every guarantee provided for its security—even the virtue and patriotism of the people themselves. Shall we not then rally to their defense, one and all of us? Shall we be told that this is the cause of a party? Believe me, fellow-citizens, it is the vital cause of constitutional freedom—the common cause of every American, Whig, or by whatever party denomination he may have been hitherto known, who values his birth-right, and is manfully determined to defend it.

That I have presented to you no exaggerated picture of our public situation, is unfortunately too well established by facts, now of universal notoriety. Revelations brought out, during the late session of Congress, have placed them before the public in a form not to be questioned.

Look at the report upon public printing; and you will see there how elaborately and ingeniously, in that large department of the public expenditure, corruption has been organized into a system to multiply bribes to the employees and supporters of the Government. Every contract, whether for paper, for printing, for lithographing, for engraving, has been so managed as not only to yield a rich harvest to the contractor himself, but to the officer of the Government who awards the contract, and to the intermediate agents employed as brokers to procure it. Thus is a single job made, by its ramifications, to enlist and remunerate a dozen or more political retainers, at an enormous cost to the Treasury; for the prices allowed to the contractor must be correspondingly high, to enable him to pay the customary tributes to his patrons and associates.

And this rank scene of corruption has been passing under the very nose of the Government, in the City of Washington. One of

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What cause of the robbers and their beautiful accomplice I never learned; but the lesson taught me on that journey I have not forgotten; and during the remainder of my stay in that country no pretty woman ever had the honor to be my business confidante, or of getting possession of my trusty and un-failing revolvers.

Speech of Hon. Wm. C. Rives, IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND, May 3, 1859.

Mr. Rives began by remarking, that the habits and pursuits of his life, for many years past, had removed him entirely from scenes of political excitement. I have no desire, he said, again to engage in them. While I had a public duty to perform, I endeavored to discharge it honestly, faithfully, and to the best of my ability,—more anxious to serve than merely to please my constituents. Cherishing with sincerity the principles I brought with me into public life, I could not as an honest man, change them at the bidding of party. My services were no longer acceptable; and I have since lived a private citizen, contented and happy, with no complaints or regrets in the past—no aspirations in the future.

But, fellow citizens, I should be sorry to say that I have lived an unconcerned spectator of public events. In a free country, every citizen, the humblest and most obscure, as well as the highest, has a patriotic duty to perform in watching over and defending, according to his opportunities, the precious deposit of the public liberties. Candor compels me to declare that, from time to time, I have seen much cause for patriotic anxiety, but never so much as at the present moment.

It is this conviction which has induced me—I may say constrained me—not without many struggles against the force of habit and that love of retirement which grows stronger by every day's indulgence, to appear before you, in obedience to the flattering call that has been made upon me. I know how incapable I am of adding, by anything I can say, to the force of the many able and eloquent appeals that have been already addressed to the intelligence and manliness of the country. But powerless as my voice is, I feel that I should be recreant to the duty of a good citizen, if I were not to raise it in such a cause, while there may be one of my countrymen willing to listen to me.

I do not appear before you to plead for the triumph of a party. No, fellow citizens; it is for a higher cause which now demands the exertions of us all. A bad and unblushing corruption has invaded every department of our national administration, which if not promptly and vigorously checked by the sovereign rebuke of the people, must soon engulf the public liberty, as it is rapidly undermining the public morals.

The wisdom and valor of our ancestors bequeathed to us noble free institutions, which were intended to place the public liberty securely under the guardianship of the public virtue. It is these noble institutions, which during official abuses, emboldened by impunity, would now pervert to the destruction of liberty, by undermining every guarantee provided for its security—even the virtue and patriotism of the people themselves. Shall we not then rally to their defense, one and all of us? Shall we be told that this is the cause of a party? Believe me, fellow-citizens, it is the vital cause of constitutional freedom—the common cause of every American, Whig, or by whatever party denomination he may have been hitherto known, who values his birth-right, and is manfully determined to defend it.

That I have presented to you no exaggerated picture of our public situation, is unfortunately too well established by facts, now of universal notoriety. Revelations brought out, during the late session of Congress, have placed them before the public in a form not to be questioned.

Look at the report upon public printing; and you will see there how elaborately and ingeniously, in that large department of the public expenditure, corruption has been organized into a system to multiply bribes to the employees and supporters of the Government. Every contract, whether for paper, for printing, for lithographing, for engraving, has been so managed as not only to yield a rich harvest to the contractor himself, but to the officer of the Government who awards the contract, and to the intermediate agents employed as brokers to procure it. Thus is a single job made, by its ramifications, to enlist and remunerate a dozen or more political retainers, at an enormous cost to the Treasury; for the prices allowed to the contractor must be correspondingly high, to enable him to pay the customary tributes to his patrons and associates.

And this rank scene of corruption has been passing under the very nose of the Government, in the City of Washington. One of