

Western Carolinian.

It is even wise to obtain from slaves, which however wise and good in themselves, have the semblance of inequality which find no response in the heart of the citizen, and which will be evaded with little remorse.
The wisdom of legislation is especially seen in grafting laws on conscience.
Dr. Channing.

(BY BURTON CRAIG.)

SALISBURY, ROWAN COUNTY, N. C. MONDAY FEBRUARY 6, 1856.

(VOL. XII., ON 105)

POLITICAL.

FROM THE BANNER OF THE CONSTITUTION.

WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO? WILL THEY DO ANYTHING? WHAT CAN THEY DO?

These are questions we hear asked every day, but such is the distracted state of the public mind, no one can pretend to give them a satisfactory answer. The waters of public opinion are so full of eddies and counter-currents, that our fancies are quite at a loss to say which way the ship will float. The master and the mate refer every thing to the spirit of consultation and to the wisdom and patriotism of the crew, and they, in their turn, will look for encouragement and assistance from the shore. It is very clear that something must be done, and that speedily, to bind up the breaking peace of the nation, and to stop the raging of opposite and violent interests. The great question which is now before Congress for settlement, is of an ordinary character. The principles involved are more important, the interests larger, and the consequences more extensive, than any other question which has yet been presented to the American people.

The late war was, perhaps, at the time, unjust, exciting, but Hull and Jackson settled the murmurs of discontent, and the glorious results of our efforts only served to make us more proud and more united. The Missouri question, as it was called, had its day, but the feelings which it engendered were put to rest by the passage of the bill, and the mighty phantoms which cunning politicians had conjured up have all vanished, I trust forever. It can not be so with the Tariff Question. Every man in the country, be he rich or poor, gentle or simple, has an interest in it—the operative, who is supposed to be benefited, as well as the laborer who is injured—the capitalist, for whose emolument it was intended, as well as the farmer, the planter, and the consumer. Every morsel that we consume, every article of clothing every object of luxury, as well as necessity, is the result of taxation and monopoly. From a system of freedom the most extensive and glorious ever enjoyed, all the occupations and desires, all the speculations and traffickings of men, have become suddenly bound up. It is no longer a question how much the whole American People have advanced in wealth and civilization, but how far particular orders of men have been enriched and others impoverished. Large districts of country are shrouded in gloom and discontent, that more favored regions may enjoy increased prosperity. The farmer is threatened with the loss of his soil, and the master with the loss of his slave. Even where States have entered into the sordid arena, and have instructed their Members to favor these interests alone, which they do a useful to themselves, without any regard to the rights and interests of others. Every day we see worthless men aiming at posts and power, through the corrupt influence of selfish combinations.

Is this an overcharged picture? If it is so for to-day, will it be so for to-morrow? There is something in the spirit which impels power to control the ordinary occupations of life, that provides for its own continuance and extension. It grows upon what it feeds on. Where do we find that monopoly was ever satisfied, or that a corrupt ambition ceased to minister to its avidity? 1816, '24, and '28, come over the recollection with accelerated haste. Had not the spirit of freedom awakened in the South, all the great principles of our Constitution would ere this have been shaken, if not overturned. The increasing scale of duties since 1816 is at once a test of our past social and political degradation, and a picture of what we are to expect hereafter.

What, then, will Congress do?—What can they do?—What ought they to do?

Nothing to my mind, is clear. They must do nothing. No half-way measures will suffice. The disease is cancerous—it must be totally cut away. If a single principle of infection is left, the body politic will again become diseased, and the regular physician will then be as impotent as the quack. I do not mean that what is determined on should be suddenly accomplished. This might be as fatal as to do nothing. Time may be given for blated interests to sink down to the common level, but let it be understood that they are to sink down, that nothing else can save either them or us.

This is what Congress ought to do, but will they do it? Have our Representatives the firmness to walk corruption in the face, to relieve us from our present difficulties, and prevent their recurrence? Can they do all this?

Never had those who are entrusted with the destinies of the nation, such an opportunity of gaining immortality—never had they such means of doing good. The payment of the Public Debt takes away all pretence for excessive taxation. Let but Congress go before the people with this one fact, and they will be long

out against all the corruption of monopoly. Let them tell the nation. We have made use of a great power, when it was necessary for your honor and your interests—it has become no longer necessary, and we resign it into the hands of those for whose benefit it was given. A bill to repeal the Acts of 1824 and 1828, with such a preamble, would receive the almost unanimous consent of the American People. Its bold justice would strike dumb all the wailings of defeated selfishness.

Let a uniform ad valorem duty be imposed upon all imports, so as to yield a revenue commensurate with the wants of the country. Such a course, at once simple and practical, would embrace the interests of all classes—it would put down nullification in the South, and smuggling in the North; and, together with the charges which accompany all importations from Europe, would give an amount of incidental protection equal to the just wants of the manufacturer, without burdening the consumer. All other modes of settling the Tariff, are utterly vain and hopeless. The people will not bear to see their money wasted in expensive schemes of internal improvement—they do not wish the trading community to be relieved from postage—they will not suffer luxuries to be introduced free of duty, to pamper the appetites of the rich, at the expense of the poor—they will not consent to see their hard earnings squandered on useless and corrupt jobs. A radical feeling is growing up in this country, which, if not checked, by a speedy return to the natural basis of society, will sweep away both laws and law-givers. In mercy, then, to the interests protected, as well as to those injured, by the Tariff, Congress should look to a final and permanent settlement of the question. Men ought not to be tempted further to invest their capital in speculations which depend for their success on the law of the land, and not on the interests of the people.

The course proposed places every American where the Constitution intended him to stand—on the basis of equal protection. Political intriguers, and the influence of wealth, may, for a time, give an ascendancy to one class over another, or over the whole, but the tendency of our institutions is towards equality; and he is the wisest statesman, who conforms to the spirit of his age and country, and prevents the headlong violence of the people, by a timely anticipation of their distresses. When the waters are out, it is no time to erect dams and cut sluices.

With so many motives to urge Congress to a final settlement of the Tariff Question, I still doubt whether it can be accomplished. The robe of our Republic is covered with the vermin of intrigue. "Good, disinterested good, is not their trade."—Where are your offices and emoluments to tempt men to do their duty? Free Trade has no rotten boroughs, and all the influence of concentrated action is with our enemies. The consciousness of public motives seems to have lost its charm for our politicians, stimulated, as they have long been, by ambition and selfishness; and this is all the friends of freedom and Free Trade can look to for support. May it prove a host! Much may be done by a bold, open, and fearless course.

But, let what may be done, I hope our friends will consent to nothing short of a final settlement. "A modification (as Mr. Burke says) is the constant resource of weak undecided minds." Better do nothing, than leave the principle of Restriction to be built upon as circumstances may favor the spirit of monopoly. There are those among us, who would not scruple to go to war, in order to furnish an excuse for high duties and non-importation acts. Let it be understood that the American citizen is to be left free, and that his burdens are to cease with the necessity which imposed them. Short of this, I would not touch a duty, but leave the whole, in these piping times of peace, to show the people what we are to expect in times of war and trouble. One year more will open the eyes of the nation so effectually, that even the politicians will be bidding against each other for the honor of destroying the hydra.

REFORM.

The Cut out of the Bag!—Mr. Clay's resolution in the Senate furnished his project. It shows us how far he is willing to go to precipitate the great Agricultural Interest—the very salt of the land—and how little he is justly entitled to the name of Mediator of the South. He tells the rich, that they may wear laces and fine linens free of duty—eat raisins, crack nuts, consume spices, &c. &c., free of all duty. But as for the poorer classes, they must pay dearly enough for cottons and coarse wools, for negro clothing and blankets, &c. &c. He throws his Aegis over the interests of the Manufacturers. When we wish to touch the Protective, the American System, or by whatever name it has been named, he cries out, "Hands off!" *Procul este profani!* It is sacred, and it must not be touched by unhallowed hands. This is a combination—and a compromise with a vengeance.

Richmond Enquirer.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From the Boston Sentinel, December 31.
MASONIC DECLARATION.

We this day present our readers with a Declaration of the Sentiments of the members of Masonic Societies of this city and vicinity, on the character of their institution. It will be perceived that it is signed by more than a thousand respectable individuals taken indiscriminately from all political parties—from the different prevailing religious denominations,—and from all classes of the community in which we live. For a verification of this our readers can refer to the signatures annexed to the declaration. It was originally intended to be a limited subscription to the city of Boston, but on the subject being proposed to members of societies in neighboring towns, they were anxious to add their signatures, and it was readily complied with. The credibility of each of the signers is therefore at stake, pledged to the truth of the declaration. The number of signers could easily have been augmented to the number of all respectable Masons throughout the State, but it was not deemed necessary to delay the publication long enough to collect their names. We invite the candid attention of all classes of men, whether Masons or Anti-Masons, to the Declaration.

TO THE PUBLIC.

While the public mind remained in the high state of excitement, to which it had been carried by the partial and inflammatory representations of certain officers, committed by a few misguided members of the Masonic Institution, in a sister State, it seemed to the undersigned (presidents of Boston and its vicinity) to be expedient to refrain from a public declaration of their principles or engagements, as Masons.—But, believing the time now to be fully come, when their fellow citizens will receive, with candor, if not with satisfaction, a solemn and unequivocal denial of the allegations, which during the last five years, in consequence of their connection with the Masonic Fraternity, have been reiterated against them, they respectfully ask permission to invite attention to the subjoined.

DECLARATION.

Whereas, it has been frequently asserted and published in the world, that in the several degrees of Freemasonry, as they are conferred in the United States, the candidate, on his initiation and subsequent advancement, binds himself, by oath, to sustain his Masonic brethren in acts, which are at variance with the fundamental principles of morality, and incompatible with his duty as a good and faithful citizen; in justice therefore to themselves, and with a view to establish truth and expose imposition, the undersigned, many of us the recipients of every degree of Freemasonry, known and acknowledged in this country, do most solemnly deny the existence of such obligations in the Masonic Institution, so far as our knowledge respectively extends. And we solemnly aver that no person is admitted to the Institution, without first being made acquainted with the nature of the obligations which he will be required to incur and assume.

Freemasonry secures its members in the freedom of thought and speech, and permits each and every one to act according to the dictates of his own conscience in matters of religion, and of his personal preferences in matters of politics. It neither knows, nor does it assume to conflict, upon its erring members, however wide may be their aberrations from duty, any penalties or punishments, other than those of admonition, suspension, and expulsion.

The obligations of the Institution require of its members a strict obedience to the laws of God and Man. So far from being bound by any engagements inconsistent with the happiness and prosperity of the Nation, every citizen, who becomes a Mason, is doubly bound to be true to his God, to his Country, and to his fellow men. In the language of the "Ancient Constitutions" of the Order, which are printed, and open for public inspection, and which are used as text books in all the Lodges, he is "required to keep and obey the Moral Law; to be a quiet and peaceful citizen; true to his government and just to his country."

Masonry disdains the making of proselytes. She opens the portals of her asylum to those only, who seek admission, with the recommendation of a character unspotted by immorality and vice. She simply requires of the candidate, his assent to one great fundamental religious truth—the existence and providence of God; and a practical acknowledgment of those inflexible doctrines for the government of life, which are written by the finger of God, on the heart of man.

Entertaining such sentiments as Masons, as Citizens, as Christians, and as moral men, and deeply impressed with the conviction that the Masonic Institution has been, and may continue to be, productive of great good to their fellow men, and having "received the laws of the society, and its accumulated funds, in sacred trust for charitable uses," the undersigned can neither renounce or abjure

don it. We most cordially unite with our brethren of Salem and vicinity, in the declaration, and hope that, "should the people of this country become so misinformed as to deprive Masons of their civil rights, in violation of their written constitutions, and the whole-some spirit of just laws and free governments, a vast majority in the fraternity, will still remain firm, confiding in God and the rectitude of their intentions, for consolation, under the trials to which they may be exposed."

[CORRESPONDENCE.]

On the subject of a Roman Medal of Cæsar, presented to Gen. ANDREW JACKSON, President of the United States, by EDWARD CHARLES GENET.

To his excellency ANDREW JACKSON, President of the United States:

Sir—Allow me to present to your excellency the enclosed medal, as a humble mark of the unbounded admiration which your great military achievements, and eminent public services, have engraven in the heart of every true American citizen, and I may add, of every friend of the sacred cause of liberty.

That very scarce medal, sir, was found in France, on an estate belonging to one of my relations, in the old entrenchments of a camp occupied by Cæsar, near the city of Compeigne, in the former province of Picardie. It was struck in honor of that great conqueror, by order of the Roman Senate, after the total defeat of the Asiatic forces, under the command of Pharnaces, the son of Mithridates. Upon that medal are inscribed the three words which composed the laconic report made by Cæsar of his victory. "Veni, vidi, vici."

The Romans in commemorating that glorious event, did not anticipate that it ever would be surpassed; but it is already recorded in history, sir, that you have effectually surpassed Cæsar. The Roman hero corrupted his fellow citizens with the plundered treasures of Asia, became the oppressor of the world, and attempted to raise a throne on the ruins of the republic; whilst the patriotic hero of New Orleans, after having gained a battle not less prompt and decisive than the defeat of Pharnaces, has strengthened the independence and liberty of his country, and now devotes the last days of his glorious career, to perpetuate the peace and happiness, by the most prudent administration of the government, which a grateful people have placed, and I cordially hope will continue to place, in his hands. It may therefore justly be said,

Quod Cæsar fecit,

Jackson superavit.

I remain, with sentiments of the most profound respect, sir, your most humble and obedient servant.

EDWARD C. GENET.

Prospect Hill, Town of Cœnebulch, State of N. York, Dec. 21, 1851.

Washington City, Jan. 2, 1852.

To Mr. E. C. Genet, Town of Greenbush, Rensselaer county.

Sir—I have received, from the hands of Judge Marey, the medal which you have had the kindness to offer to me, as a New Year's Gift, and as a mark of your regard for my character.

In accepting this valuable medal, on an occasion so appropriate, as the introduction of a new year to the review of the past, and the anticipation of the future, allow me to assure you that I feel most forcibly the moral which it indicates, though far from arrogating to myself the slightest approach to the possession of the talents which distinguished the extraordinary man in whose honor it was struck by the Roman Senate.

In the history of Cæsar, who won the confidence and love of the Roman people by achievements which yet command the admiration of the world, we have an instance of the intoxicating effects of power, which cannot be too often the subject of reflection. May it be a moment for meditating that the medal which now attests his ambition rather than his virtue, that a Republic, to be free, must ever be watchful of the acts of those to whom it confides the defence, as well as the administration, of its laws.

If I was enabled to render some service to my country, on the occasion to which you allude, it was because the brave men who were associated with me disregarded any danger but that of disgrace, and were animated by that spirit of liberty which pervaded your original country at the period you left it to adopt the one of which you are now so enlightened and worthy a citizen.

Believe me, with sentiments of great respect, your obt. servt.

ANDREW JACKSON.

The Report of the MINT communicated to Congress on Tuesday, by the President, states, that the coinage effected within the past year amounts to \$3,024,472 60; comprising \$714,270 in gold coins, \$3,175,000 in silver, and \$33,603 60 in copper, and consisting of 11,792,984 pieces of coin, viz:—140,594 Half Dollars; 4,649 Quarter Eagles; 5,879,000 Half Dol-

lars; 308,000 Quarter Dollars; 711,260 Dimes; 1,342,760 Half Dimes; 3,559,200 Cents; and 2,200 Half Cents. Of the gold coin \$26,000 worth was received from Virginia; \$294,000 from North Carolina; \$22,000 from South Carolina; and \$170,000 from Georgia. About \$1,000 worth was also received from Alabama, and the like amount from Tennessee—an amount in the two latter States, as the report states, "merely little regard, except as indicating the progressive development of the gold region." The profit of the copper coinage, for the last year, will exceed \$10,000. The whole expense of the mint for the last year, will in consequence not amount to more than \$29,000.

Baltimore Republican.

MORAL.

Mrs. HANNAH ADAMS.—This learned and pious lady, closed a long and exemplary life on the 16th ult. at Brookline, at the advanced age of 76 years. She resided, we believe, in early life, in the family of the Rev. Mr. Bean, of Wrentham, where she first discovered a taste for study, and under whose instruction she acquired a knowledge of the dead languages. She was remarkable in early life for a quick perception and retentive memory; and in latter years for that executive which, more or less, always distinguishes the studious and the learned. Towards the close of life, her memory seemed to be confined to the past, and it was difficult for her to retain the slightest traces of recent occurrences. Her acquaintance was equally sought by the pious and the learned, her literary attainments having given her a passport and welcome to both. She was a lady of great simplicity and sincerity of character, which made her, at least once, a victim to hypocrisy and avarice. But they who would have robbed her of her rights and of her hard earned fame, have gone to render their account to another tribunal.—We pass them by.

Mrs. Adams was the Authoress of the History of the Jews, the History of all Religions, and the history of New-England—works that exhibit great labor and research, judgment and learning; and will remain, we trust a lasting monument to her fame. She was an honor to her sex—an honor to the Church—an honor to literatures—an honor to New England, and an honor to the age. Full of years, and full of honors, she has gone, we trust, to receive that reward, which this world can neither give nor take away.

Boston Post.

THE POOR.

O pity, kind gentle folks, friends of humanity,

Cold blows the wind, and the night's coming on,

Give me some for my mother in charity,

Give me some food, and I'll quickly be gone."

The present season of all others, is most to be dreaded by those on whom fortune has frowned in anger, and who from a destitution of proper shelter and clothing, are illy prepared to bide the peltings of the pitiless storm, which the season of sleet and snow is sure to bring in its train; and this, of all others is the season which should call forth the benevolent sympathies of our nation, in behalf of those on whom poverty has laid his chilling hand.

"Charity is three blessed," and he, whose cold and sordid selfishness has prevented him from ever opening his heart to the blessing of distress, can know little of one of the most refined luxuries of life—that of administering food to the hungry, clothing to the naked, and consolation to the broken hearted.

In this age of benevolence, when a heavy tax is laid upon our charity to relieve distress at a distance, which, perhaps, is greatly exaggerated or altogether imaginary; or which is but the tale of an impostor, contrived to extort money, not for the purposes of charity; but to be squandered in vice, or in ministering to the grosser passions—have we not passed by and utterly overlooked the poverty and wretchedness that every where surrounds us, and which exists even at our own doors? Because we have "the poor always with us," have we not become familiarized with suffering, and shut our hearts against the cries of want in our own neighborhood, whilst we have contributed liberally to the wants of those not more deserving, and whose suffering distance alone has magnified?

If it be urged, that in a land of plenty, where the statute makes ample provision for the poor, there can be no domestic suffering, we would answer, let the same critical examination be gone into as was lately to ascertain the number of families who were destitute of the bible, and would not numerous scenes be developed, that would shock our sensibilities, and call forth our warmest sympathies! How many would be found suffering with cold, destitute of proper clothing to protect them from the inclemencies of the season, and without fuel to dispel the damp vapors from their miserable dwellings! How many without bread, or proper food to

quench the cravings of hunger!—How many would be found who are compelled to sleep on straw—in a dream of slumber, and wake to feel the "cravings of want? Alas! we fear the number of such would be far beyond that of those who have been found destitute of the Scriptures; and yet, among our numerous societies for other, and in our opinions less deserving objects, we have scarcely one for the relief of these.

Many poor people, and especially those who are deserving, will endure excessive want, before they appeal to the hand of reluctant charity for relief. Let it be the business of the benevolent, then, to seek out and relieve the necessities of such without stooping.

"To ask the way, as that made them poor, Or why they help demand!" and they will render a more acceptable service in the sight of heaven, than by expending thousands in vainly war with the Catholics of the Mississippi Valley, in the erection of splendid churches in India; or in the support of costly establishments in Palestine.

WIT AND HUMOR.

CONTRADICTION OF PROVERBS.—"The more the merrier." Not so; our land is enough in a parson. "He that has had eat good meat growed." Not so; for they fastened would get more than their masters. "He can say who never tarts." Not so; he may break his neck in a short course. "No man can call again yesterday." Yet he may call till his head aches, though it never comes. "He that goes softly goes safely." Not among thieves. "Nothing hurts the stomach more than surfeiting." Yet, lack of meat, is nothing so hard to a willing mind. "Yes to get money." None so blind as they that will not see. "Yes they that cannot see." Nothing but what has an end. Not so; a ring that gets for it is round. "Money is a great comfort." Not when it brings a thief to the gallows. "The world is a long journey." Not so; the sun goes over it every day. "It is a great way to the bottom of the sea." Not so; it is but a sloop's cast. "A friend is best found in adversity." Not so; for then there is none to be found. "The price of the rich makes the labor of the poor." Not so; the labor of the poor makes the price of the rich.

A sweet Temper.—A gentleman, when asked his opinion of a certain critic, a few days ago, gave it in the following terms:—"Why, he is a perfect crab apple—a decoction of vinegar—the quintessence of acerbity. If I wished to convert the Turnip into Turnipade, I should pitch him into it, and after the first day, it was not sufficiently stimulated by ordinary drinking water it must contain a greater quantity of acerbic matter than chemists generally imagine."

Seeing it is gone.—At a time when knee-buckles were in a vogue, Popsy Hobbs, being then a youngster, called upon a shopkeeper to purchase a pair.

"How much for these buckles?" said Tom laying his hand upon a pair.

"That pair," said the shopkeeper, "is worth three dollars—but seeing it is you, you shall have it for two."

"Seeing it is gone!" said Tom, with a queer grin, "why, where under the canopy did you ever see me before?"

"Oh, I am sure I have seen you buy where, I can't recollect."

"Well, and I can't recollect where, I have seen you, said Tom, "but seeing it is you, I believe I won't buy that pair of buckles."

So saying, Tom left the shopkeeper wondering with what sort of a character it was with which he had to do. D.

Frederick, king of Prussia, having rung his bell one day, and nobody answering, opened the door, and found the page sitting asleep on the sofa. He was just going to wake him, when he perceived the end of a paper out of his pocket on which something was written. This excited his curiosity. He pulled it out, and found it to be a letter from the mother of the page, thanking him for having sent her part of his wages, which had proved a very timely assistance to her, and in conclusion, beseeching God to bless him for his filial duty. The king stepped softly to his room, took a rosette of diamonds, and slipped them with the letter into the page's pocket. Returning to his apartment he rang so violently that the page awoke, opened the door, and entered. "You have been asleep," said the king. The page attempted to excuse himself; and in the embarrassment, happening to pass his hand into his pocket, felt with astonishment the rosette. He drew it out, turned pale, and looking at the king burst into tears, without being able to say a word. "What is the matter?" said the king: "what ails you?" "All, sire!" said the young man, throwing himself at his majesty's feet, "somebody wishes to ruin me; I know not how, but he has this rosette in my pocket." "What God bestows," resumed the king, "be he in sleep; send the money to your mother, salute her in my name, and assure her that I shall take care of both her and you."