

# THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

THE POWERS NOT DELEGATED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE CONSTITUTION, NOR PROHIBITED BY IT TO THE STATES, ARE RESERVED TO THE STATES RESPECTIVELY, OR TO THE PEOPLE.—Amendments to the Constitution, Article X.

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SALISBURY, N. C., MARCH 21, 1839.

NO. XL, OF VOL. XIX.  
(NO. FROM COMMENCEMENT 974.)

## TERMS OF CAROLINIAN.

The Western Carolinian is published every Thursday, at Two Dollars per annum in advance, or Two Dollars and Fifty Cents if not paid before the expiration of three months.

No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, unless at the discretion of the Editors; and a failure to notify the Editors of a wish to discontinue, at the end of a year, will be considered as a new engagement.

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

Extract from "Warner Arundell," or the Adventures of a Creature.

### AN ADVENTURE IN TRINIDAD.

"Can you please direct me to the road across?" inquired I.

"Certainly," said Brunlow. "Pass through yonder cañon (small plantation), and then keep in a northward direction until you come to four remarkable palm trees, which grow in a row; here cast your eyes across the Savanna, and you will perceive a bluff point of land—a spur of the northern mountains, which terminates in the plains.—Here the difficulty of the route commences. You will have to force your way through the fox-tail grass and the tusk rushes, which will cover yourself and horse; but steer by the mountain in a direct line, for about three miles and a half, and you will come out at the Carony, which you may easily swim, and get to St. Joseph. I would, however, advise you to borrow or buy a cutlass, as you may meet with snakes in the way. I would lead you mine, but I want it myself, having to survey in the woods to-morrow. You can buy a cutlass of any of the free people about here."

I thanked him for his minute direction and advice. We separated, and I now entered a dense mass of vegetation, the like of which I never beheld. The inundations of the Carony, the immense fertility of the land, and the intertropical sun, produced a growth of rushes each thicker than a man's arm, and from fifteen to eighteen feet in height. These grew so close, that it was with great labor my horse could force his way through them. The difficulty of our progress became so great, that recollecting Brunlow's love for quizzes, I was about to return; however, I still proceeded at the rate of a mile an hour, hoping every minute to come to where the vegetation was less gigantic and dense. Having crossed from Alta Gracia to Essequibo, I felt ashamed of turning back from a journey of four or five miles; for I knew by the form of the hills, of which I sometimes got a glimpse, that every laborious step the horse made brought me nearer to St. Joseph. The poor beast fairly groaned under his exertion amid the tough tusk rushes, which seem to grow taller and taller. I now perceived, with astonishment a great number of fallow-deer rush past me, for these animals never herd together in Trinidad. Presently a quantity of spotted (Indian ponies) leaped past me, running as though for their lives in the same direction; yet I heard no dog bark, nor any sound of a chase. An aleo (wild dog) or two, and several jaguars bled past, but seemed not in the pursuit of the geese. Again, as my horse proceeded, he put his hoof on a tortoise; the slow animal drew his short legs and small head into its tough shell, over which a wagon might have passed without cracking it; and no sooner was the horse's hoof off the tortoise, than he took his tardy way in the same direction that the number of animals were going. A flock of quank, or musk-rats, and several lapes, now rushed by, grunting and squeaking. Presently a large tiger cat, followed by six or eight kittens ran past me; and I now perceived a large boa constrictor gliding among the rushes. I grasped my cutlass, and dismounted to defend myself from the enormous reptile; but it passed on, followed by several other snakes; it either wished to attack nor avoid me. What could all this mean? Was I in my proper senses, or were all the animals of the island at peace with each other, and about to meet in grand Congress? I remounted my horse, who, to my amazement, followed in the track of the large boa, and, although the poor beast was jaded, it plunged forward, using exertions which astonished me; until the animal was covered with foam. A breeze shook the heads of the gigantic rushes. What could those roaring and cracking sounds mean—that smoke, too? Gracious heavens! the truth now flashed on my mind—the savanna had been set on fire!

My suspicion at once pointed to Smithson, and I was right in my conjectures, as I afterwards found. The flight of the various animals was at once explained; they were rushing from the devouring element. Hopes of escape amidst this immense mass of inflammable vegetable matter I had not; yet I spurred my horse. It was needless, the poor animal seemed instinctively to know our danger before I did, and plunged through the rushes with all the strength he was master of, taking the same route as the rest of the animals.—Oh, on good speed! If the conflagration, which roars and cracks with a deafening sound in our ears, catches us before we get from amongst these scorching rushes, we shall be reduced to cinders in a few seconds. I closed my eyes, on account of the smoke which rolled onward, and which nearly choked me. The flames pursued us on the wings of the wind; but, merciful Providence, I see a chance of deliverance before me! The rushes decrease in size, and the ground becomes humid; yet the devouring element pursues us. We were saved! A low desperate plunge of the horse brought us into a quaggy perennial lake, to which all the animals of the savanna had sped, or were speeding. Had we been five seconds later, the roaring and cracking flames would have caught us; and as my horse plunged into the middle of the pool, which teemed with animals and reptiles, the fire absolutely passed over our heads on the sides of the lake. I dismounted—stood to my breast in shallow water, which steamed from the heat—the

ble calorific; none attacked, none seemed to fear another. I saw several poisonous snakes, that were overtaken by the flames on the banks of the pool, turn round, and with stupid rage, attempt to fight with the fire. As they felt it burn their extremities, they erected their slender forms, opened their wide jaws, elevated their baneful fangs, and darted at the flames; in a few moments they were reduced to black cinders.

As the conflagration spread its pyramidal arms above the steaming and muddy waters, my situation was almost insupportable; yet I thanked Providence for my deliverance. It was true I was in a purgatory, but for miles around me raged a hell. At length the wind, which was blowing with violence, remitted, and shortly afterwards died away; the flames shot up in a vertical direction, and my aching eyes were blessed with the appearance of the cloudy sky. The fire now burned with a steady roar for about five minutes, when another breeze sent the flames over the yellow lake. I stooped until my chin touched the water, to avoid the heat; finally, I ducked my head underneath for a second to cool it, when the wind lulled, and I, with my hand, sliced water over the head of my groaning horse. The fire slackened, and in about half an hour after I had taken refuge in the perennial lake, it had burned out. But the surface of the earth was calcined like a brick, and too hot to be passed over by the foot of any animal. If the rain did not fall, I had the uncomfortable prospect of spending many hours in my present situation, and with my present company of reptiles; who, although now at peace with their neighbors, might soon recommence hostilities.

I made my horse wade its way to where stood the branchless trunk of an old crooked savanna tree, which, being in the middle of the water, had escaped burning. I buckled the bridle to this tree while I went to reconnoitre, in order to ascertain where I could most conveniently throw water on the calcined earth, to get room for myself and horse on terra firma, until the rain or dews of evening should sufficiently cool the ground to allow our passing over. I had not left the horse a minute before it uttered a neigh of distress. I grasped my cutlass, and ran to its aid. I found that an enormous mackawell, or boa constrictor, of about twenty-five feet in length, had caught the poor beast in its fold; and a part of the reptile was knotted around the old tree, and two coils were about the beast.—The serpent had passed his body between the fore-legs of the horse, and was in the act of seizing it by the throat, when a thrust from my cutlass pierced its eye, and entered right into his head.—The fury of the mackawell was now turned on me; it elongated its body so that six or seven feet of its neck were clear of the horse, which, however, it showed no disposition to relinquish. It raised its head above me, its double tongue quivered in its mouth, the jaws opened until they seemed to be dislocated, and it breathed on me with its infernal breath, the odor of which is unlike nought else I ever smelt. It hesitated to lower its head for the attack; I stooped into the water; it also stooped, until, judging it within reach of my arm, I rose and made a cut at it, which divided its lower jaw.

The boa now turned from me; I made a blow at the part which was coiled round the tree, and divided the tail from the rest of its body. This seemed to be a coup de grace; it appeared to lose all power; its bleeding head fell into the water, and the poor horse uttered a note something between a snort and a groan, at being relieved from the strangling convulsions of the serpent, although they were still about it, until I divided one of the coils near the saddle with my cutlass, and the reptile's severed body fell writhing into the water.

A most welcome shower of rain, such as occurs occasionally in Trinidad during the dry season, now fell; the burning cloud absorbed it, while it hissed and sent up clouds of steam. I got my horse out of the pool, but he was too much exhausted to carry me; I therefore led him to the Carony river, where I bathed him and myself, going into the water with my muddled clothes.—Crossing the Carony, I came to the plantation of the worthy Baron de —, a gentleman born in Grenada, of noble French blood, whose father took the right side of the civil war of that island—that is to say, the side that was eventually successful. When he that evening found that I was a countryman of his, hospitality was warm in the extreme. This was fortunate; for my savanna adventure, and the broiling and steaming which I got in the muddy lake, brought on a slight inflammatory fever, which confined me to the house of the worthy Baron for twelve days. My fine creole galloway took a cold, and died two days after our escape from the fire.

**The Burning of Moscow.**—In Stephen's incidents of Travel in Turkey, Russia, &c. is the following paragraph relating to the character of this extraordinary deed:

"Russia is not classic ground. It does not stand before us covered with great men's deeds. A few centuries ago, it was overrun by wandering tribes of barbarians; but what is there in those lands which stands forth on the pages of history, crowned with the glory of their ancient deeds, that for extraordinary daring, for terrible sublimity, and undaunted patriotism, exceeds the burning of Moscow. Neither Marathon, nor Thermopylae, nor the battle of the Horatii, nor the defence of Coles, nor the devotion of the Weccii can equal it, and when time shall cover with its dim and quiet glories that bold and extraordinary deed, the burning of Moscow will be regarded as outstripping all that we read of Grecian or Roman patriotism, and the name of the Russian governor, Rostorotchin, if it be not to long a name to hand down to posterity, will never be forgotten."

The poor pittance of seventy years is not worth being a villain for. What matter is it if your neighbor lies in a splendid tomb? Sleep you with innocence. Look behind through the track of time! A vast desert lies open in retrospect; wearied with tears and sorrows they sink from the walks of man. You must leave them where they fall; and you are to go a little further, where you will find eternal rest. Whatever you may have to encounter between the cradle and the grave, every moment is big with immutable events which come not in succession, but bursting forcibly from a revolving and unknown cause. By over the orb with diversified influence.—Blair.

**Just in Time.**—A young physician having tried in vain to get into practice, at last fell upon the following expedient to set the ball to rolling. He sprang upon his horse once a day, and drove at full speed through the village. After an absence of an hour he would return, and carry with him some of his instruments—thinking if he could impress his neighbors with the opinion that he had practice, they would begin to place confidence in his ability. A wag, who more than suspected the deceit which he was practising determined to know the truth. He accordingly kept his horse in readiness, and the next time that the doctor galloped by his door, springing on his steed and placed himself on the young gentleman's trail. The doctor saw the man following at his heels, but did not, at first, evince any uneasiness. At length, however, he thought it advisable to turn down a narrow lane. The pursuer followed on like an evil genius; but the doctor was not discouraged, as another road lay a short distance ahead of him down which he turned. The other kept close at his heels, and the doctor grew impatient to return home. There was no house by the way, at which he could afford any pretext for stopping. In the mean time his saddle bags were with him, and he was otherwise equipped for business, so that he could not return, in the face of his neighbor, without exposing the secrets of the trade in the most palpable manner. Every bound of his steed carried him farther from his home, and the shades of night began to fall on hill and tower. Still the sound of horse's hoofs were thundering in his rear, and he was driven to his wife's end; but just as he turned the angle of a wood he heard a low moan. A man lay prostrate near the fence of a meadow, and blood gushed from a fearful wound in his arm. He had cut an artery with his scythe, and was in danger of immediate dissolution. The young doctor sprang from his horse and stanching the wound. Bandages were applied and his life saved. The pursuer had also thrown himself on his horse, and as the physician tied the last bandage, he looked up in his face and said—"How lucky neighbor, that I was able to arrive just in time."

The wondering spectator was silent with awe, and after assisting the wounded man home, he told such a miraculous tale to the wondering villagers, as secured to the young physician, a reputation not only for skill, but also for super natural prescience. Thus did the merest accident contribute more to his advancement than years of studious toil could have done; and the impertinent curiosity of a wag-gish neighbor, opened for him a path to business which the most influential patronage might never have been able to provide for him.

"Liberty will not descend to a people, a people must raise themselves to liberty; it is a blessing that must be earned before it can be enjoyed. That nation cannot be free where reform is a common hack, that is dismissed with a kick the moment it has brought the rider to his place.—That nation cannot be free, where parties are but different roads, leading to one common destination, plunder. That nation cannot be free, where the rulers will not feel for the people, until they are obliged to feel with the people, and then it is too late. That nation cannot be free, that is bought by its own consent; and sold against it; where the rogue that is in rags is kept in countenance by the rogue that is in ruffles, and where, from high to low, from the lord to the lackey, there is nothing radical but corruption, and nothing contemptible but poverty; where both patriot and placeman, perceiving that money can do every thing, are prepared to do every thing for money. That nation cannot be free, where the leprosy of selfishness sticks to it as close as the curse of Elisha to his servant Gehazi; where rulers ask not what recommends a man, but who; and where those who want a rogue, have no occasion to make, but to choose. I hope there is no nation like this under heaven; but if there were, these are the things that, however great she might be, would keep such a nation from liberty, and liberty from her. These are the things that would force upon such a nation—first, a government of expedients; secondly, of difficulty; and lastly, of danger. Such a nation could begin to feel only by tearing all that she deserved, and finish by suffering all that she feared."

The woes of human life are relative. The sailor springs from his warm couch to climb the icy topmast at midnight without a murmur; while the rich merchant complains of the rattling cart which disturbs his evening's repose. In the time of peace, we announce the breaking of a bone as a melancholy event—but in war, when we read of the slaughter of our neighbors and thousands of the enemy, we clasp our hands and shout "glorious victory!"

**A Farmer's Life and Duties.**—If we were ever envious, it was of the farmer.—The intelligent, independent farmer, who owned his land, his house and barns—who was free from debt, and whose family was growing up prosperously around him. We have seen such a farmer; and, in truth, we know of no man so happy, and no business so permanently profitable, none that makes the owners so independent. An independent farmer has his house to live in; it is his own, he has earned it by the labor of his own hands. He has his granaries filled with the production of his farm, his barns with the stock reared and the hay raised upon his farms. His cellars are filled with the necessities and luxuries of life. Almost every thing necessary to feed him and his family grows around him. He may raise his own pork, latten and kill his own sheep, eat his own poultry and his own eggs, have upon his own homemade bread, weave his own cloth, raise his own wool, knit his own stockings through the agency of his wife and daughters, make his own butter and cheese—in short, live and dress comfortably without going off his own homestead. This is no fiction, and it is the fact that the farmer is the most independent man in the community.

But in order to be happy, and to make his life useful as it ought to be, he must be intelligent—in possession of the means of knowledge, especially that kind of knowledge which relates to his own profession. He must use the means which God has given him; to be happy himself and contribute to the peace and comfort of those around. In justice to himself, he will employ his evenings in the

useful books and a supporter of the public press, which brings at his door the newspaper which gives him the history of the world. Such a farmer as this will fulfil his duties to his country and his fellow men, and is the happiest and the most independent among the best of men.

**Orchard Grass.**—This grass is worthy of being cultivated on account of its uncommon luxuriance. Horses, cows, and sheep, eat it readily, and it is valuable on account of its excellent after-feed. It affords an abundant crop, springs early, and grows fast, makes excellent hay, and yields an abundance of seed, which is not easily shaken out. It is a hardy grass, found highly useful in most heavy soils, and thriving under the shade of trees. It comes early, is soon matured, and continues green until late in the season as clover does. If intended for fodder, it should be cut while young and tender.

### Farmer's Cabinet.

#### REMARKS OF MR. CALHOUN.

Of South Carolina, on the Bill to prevent the interference of certain Federal Officers in elections.

MR. CALHOUN said: I belong, Mr. President, to that political school which regards with a jealous eye the patronage of this Government, and believes that the less its patronage the better, consistently with the objects for which the Government was instituted. Thus thinking, I have made no political noise of any importance, for the last twelve or thirteen years, which had not for its object, directly or indirectly, the reduction of patronage.—But, notwithstanding this, I cannot bring my mind to support this bill, decidedly as I approve of its object. Among other difficulties, there is a constitutional objection, which I cannot surmount, and which I shall, without further remark, proceed to state and consider.

This bill proposes to inflict the penalty of dismission on a large class of the officers of the Government, who shall electorally, or attempt to control, or influence the election of public functionaries, either of the General or State Governments, without distinguishing between their official and individual character, as citizens; and the question is, has Congress the constitutional right to pass such a law? That, again, involves a prior, and still more general question: has this Government the authority to interfere with the electoral rights of the citizens of the States?

In considering this general question, I shall assume, in the first place, what none will deny, that it belongs to the States separately to determine who shall, and who shall not, exercise the right of suffrage; and, in the second, that it belongs to these, in like manner, to regulate that right; that is, to pass all laws that may be necessary to secure its free exercise, on the one hand, and to prevent its abuse on the other. I next advance the proposition, which no one in the least conversant with our institutions, or familiar with the constitution, will venture to question, that as far as citizens are concerned, this right belongs solely to the States, to the entire exclusion of the General Government, which can in no wise touch or interfere with it, without transcending the limits of the constitution. Thus far, there can be no difference of opinion.

But a citizen may be also an officer of this Government, which brings up the question, has it the right to make it penal for him to use his official power to control or influence elections? Can it, for instance, make it penal in a collector, or other officer, who holds a bond, in his official character, on a citizen, to threaten to enforce it, if he should refuse to vote for his favorite candidate? I regard this proposition as not less clear than the preceding. Whenever the Government invests an individual with power, which may be used to the injury of others, or the public, it is manifest that it not only has the right, but that it is in duty bound to prevent its abuse, as far as practicable. But it must be borne in mind that a citizen does not cease to be one in becoming a Federal officer. This Government must, accordingly, take special care, in subjecting him to penalties, for the abuse of his official powers, that it does not interfere in any wise with his private rights as a citizen, and which are, as has been stated, under the exclusive control of the States. But no such care is taken either in this bill or the substitute proposed by its author. Neither make any distinction whatever between the official and private acts of the officer as a citizen.

The broadest and most comprehensive terms are used, comprehending and subjecting all acts without discrimination as to character, as the proposed penalty. Under its provisions, if an officer should express an opinion of any candidate, say of a President, who was a candidate for re-election, whether favorable or unfavorable, or to whisper an opinion relating to his administration, whether good or bad, he would subject himself to the penalty of this bill, as certainly as if he had brought the whole of his official power to bear directly on the freedom of election. That a bill, containing such broad and indiscriminate provisions, transcends the powers of Congress, and violates in the officer the electoral rights of the citizen, held under the authority of his State, and guaranteed by the provision of the constitution, which secures the freedom of speech to all, is too clear, after what has been said, to require additional illustration. It cannot pass without the enlarging the power of the Government by the abridgment of the rights of the citizen.

But, it may be replied, that these are instances where the Government has subjected its officers to penalties for acts of a private character, over which the constitution has given it no control. Such undoubtedly is the fact, and its right to do so, in the instances referred to in the discussion, cannot be denied; but all such cases are distinguished from that under consideration by facts too hard to be mistaken. In all of them, the acts prohibited were, in the first place, such as were incompatible with the official duties enjoined; as in the case of the prohibition of commissaries to purchase or deal in articles similar to those that are made their official duty to purchase, in order to prevent fraud on the public. And in the next, the acts prohibited involved only civil rights, belonging to the officer as an individual, and not political rights, which belong to him as a citizen. The former he may yield to pleasure, without discredit or disgrace, but the latter he cannot surrender without betraying himself, and giving up a sacred trust vested in him, by the State of which he is a member, for the common good; nor can this Government demand its surrender, without transcending its powers and infringing the rights of the States, and the rights of the

impossible to distinguish between the official and the political acts of the officer, so as to subject the former to penal restraints, without interfering with the latter, and that it would in practice render ineffective the admitted right of the Government to punish its officers for the abuse of their official powers. It may be so, but little or no evil can result. Whatever defect of right this Government may labor under, in such cases, is amply made up by the plenary power of the States, which has an unlimited control over the electoral rights of its citizens, whether officers of this Government or not. To these the subject may be safely confided. It is they who are particularly interested in seeing that a right so sacred shall not be abused, nor the freedom of election be impaired. We must not forget that States and the people of the States are our constituents and superiors, and we but their agents, and that if the right in question be abused, or the freedom of election impaired, it is they, and not we, who must mainly suffer, and who, of course, are the best judges of the evil and the remedy.—If the policy of the States demands it, they may impose whatever restraint they please on the Federal officers within their respective limits, in order to guard against their control or influence in elections; and, if it be necessary, to divest them entirely of the right of suffrage. To those who are so much more interested and competent to judge and act on this subject than we are, I am for leaving the decision as to what ought to be done, and the application of the remedy. Entertaining these views, I am forced to the conclusion that this bill is unconstitutional, and if there were no other reason to oppose its passage, would be compelled to vote against it.

But there are others sufficiently decisive to compel me to withhold my support, were it possible to remove the constitutional objection. So far from restricting the patronage of the President, should the bill become a law, it would, if I mistake not, greatly increase his influence. He has now the almost unlimited power of removing the officers of this Government—a power, the abuse of which has been the subject of much and, in my opinion, of just complaint on the part of the chamber to which the mover of this bill belongs, on the ground that it was calculated to increase unduly, the power and influence of that department of the Government. Now what is the remedy this bill proposes for that evil? To put restrictions on the removing power? This very restriction. To make it the duty, as it now is the right of the President to appoint, and in discharging this high duty he is made the sole judge, without limitation or appeal. The fate of the accused would be exclusively in his hand, whether charged with the offence of opposing or supporting his administration. Can any man, the least conversant with party politics, or the workings of the human heart, doubt how the law would be executed? Is it not certain, that it would be most rigidly enforced against all officers who should venture to oppose him, either in the Federal or State Governments, with a corresponding indulgence and lenity towards those who supported him? A single view, without prolonging the discussion, will decide. Should there be a President of such exalted virtue and patriotism as to make no discrimination between friend and foe, the law would be perfectly useless; but if not, it would be made the pretext for indiscriminate removal of all, who may refuse to become his active and devoted partisans, and it would thus prove either useless or worse than useless.

With the object which the mover of the bill has in view, it seems to me, he ought to take the very opposite course; and instead of making it the duty of the President to remove, he ought to impose restrictions on the power of removal, or to divest him entirely of it. Place the office holders, with their yearly salaries, beyond the reach of the Executive power, and they would, in a short time, be as mute and inactive as the bill proposes to make them. Their voice, I promise, would then be scarcely raised at elections, or their persons be found at the polls.

But suppose the immediate object of the bill accomplished, and the office holders rendered perfectly silent and passive, it might even then be doubted whether it would cause any diminution in the influence of patronage over elections. It would, indeed, greatly reduce the influence of the office holders. They would become the most insignificant portion of the community, as far as elections were concerned. But just in the same proportion as they might sink, the more formidable corps of office-seekers would rise in importance. The struggle for power between the ins and the outs would not abate in the least, in violence or intensity, by the silence or inactivity of the office holders, as the amount of patronage, the stake contended for, would remain undiminished. Both sides, these in and those out of power, would turn from the passive and silent body of incumbents, and court the favor of the active corps, that passed to supplant them; and the result would be, an annual sweep of the former, after every election, to make room to reward the latter, and that on whichever side the scale of victory might turn. The consequence would be rotation with a vengeance. The wheel would turn round with such velocity that any thing like a stable system of policy would be impossible. Each temporary occupant, that might be thrown into office by the whirl, would seize the moment to make the most of his good fortune, before he might be displaced by his successor, and a system, (if such it might be called) would follow, not less corrupting than unstable.

With these decisive objections, I cannot give my support to the bill; but I wish it to be distinctly understood, that in withholding it, I neither retract nor modify any sentiment I have expressed in relation to the patronage of this Government. I have looked over, since the commencement of this discussion, the report I made as chairman of a select committee on the subject in 1835, and which has been so frequently referred to in debate by those on the opposite side of the chamber, and I find nothing which I would omit, if I had now to draw it, but much, which time and reflection would induce me to add, to strengthen the grounds I then advanced. There is not a sentence in it incompatible with the views I have presented on the present occasion.

I might now, Mr. President, terminate my remarks, as far as this bill is concerned; but as the general question of patronage is at all times one of importance under our system of Government, and the rights of the States, and the rights of the