

# THE ROANOKE NEWS

W. W. HALL,  
J. W. BLEEDER, PROPRIETORS.

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1862.

## ELECTION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

On the first Monday in August a new Board of Commissioners will be elected for two years, and will qualify on the first Monday in December next. In electing this Board the magistrates should select the best men in the county. The public affairs require as close attention and good management as private business, and should have wise heads to manage them. There are plenty of men in the county capable of directing them in the best manner and these should be called upon to take office.

We have heard that most if not all of the present Board do not desire to be re-elected, and such being the case others must be selected to fill their places. The rule or rather the custom, is to select men from different parts of the county so that each section may be represented.

We do not desire to meddle with affairs that are none of our business, but every good citizen has a right to express his opinions and make suggestions in matters concerning the public and we avail ourselves of that right to suggest for Commissioners the names of gentlemen who we believe would transact the business of the county satisfactorily to all.

Col. W. A. Johnston, Sterling Johnston, W. E. Spruill, J. J. Robertson, Dr. J. A. Collins, Fletcher Parker, D. C. Clark, J. M. Grizzard, F. Froehle, L. G. Grady, R. H. Daniel, Jno. A. Norfleet, J. C. Randolph, J. R. Tillery, W. E. Aaron, J. B. Neal, Noah Biggs, W. A. Dunn, R. H. Smith, Sr., L. B. Manning, Ferdinand Whitaker, J. H. Parker, E. T. Branch, Aaron Prescott, J. T. Gooch, R. W. Brown, J. W. White and many others equally as well known in the county would be good selections. We do not know whether any of these gentlemen would accept, but we think any man elected to the office should accept it even at a sacrifice to himself. Only the best men should take it.

Col. Folk, who is a candidate for Supreme Court Judge on the liberal Republican ticket is in favor of the county government system. In fact he drew the bill which is now in force. The nomination is rather inconsistent on a platform which opposes the present county government law. Col. Folk says he still believes the present system is right. Here is his record on the question in the Legislature. It is taken from the Statesville Landmark:

In the Legislature of 1856-77 Mr. Folk was one of the Senators from the 36th district, composed of the counties of Caldwell, Burke, McDowell, Mitchell and Yancey. On page 163 of the Senate Journal for the session in question we read Mr. Folk is the very gentleman who introduced into that body the bill to "establish county government"—the bill which put the election of magistrates in the hands of the Legislature and the election of county commissioners in the hands of the magistrates. The Record (page 268) shows, among them the bills and resolutions introduced on January 25th, 1857, the following:

"By Mr. Folk: S. B. 408, bill to establish county government. Referred to the committee on county government."

A writer in the New York Sun attempts to prove that the Mecklenburg declaration of independence is "a clumsy canard." He says it was never published before 1819, and quotes a letter written by Mr. Adams to Mr. Jefferson in 1819 in regard to it and Mr. Jefferson's reply. He even says that the historian Bancroft dodges the question. The letters quoted do not deny the authenticity of the declaration but the writer simply say they never heard of it until it was published in 1819. Here is an extract from the letter of Mr. Jefferson:

MONTGOMERY, July 8, 1819.  
I am in debt to you for your letters of May the 21st, and June, the 2d. But what has attracted my peculiar notice is the paper from Mecklenburg County of North Carolina, published in the "Texas Register," which you were so kind as to enclose in your last, of June 22. And you seem to think it genuine. I believe it spurious. I deem it to be a very unimpeachable quiz like that of the volume, so maliciously retorted as having broken out in North Carolina some half dozen years ago, in that part of the country, and perhaps in that very county of Mecklenburg, for it just resembles its predecessor. This paper is really taken from the "Baptist Register," as quoted. I wouldn't have excepted it either, who still exists what comes from every paper, as the best from every paper, as the "National Intelligencer," too, which is edited by a North Carolinian, and that the fire should take out all at once in Essex, (Mass.) five miles from where the spark is said to have fallen. If it really took out from the "Baptist Register," who is it in fiction as the paper itself? It appeals, too, to Alexander, my book, which is bound to Mr. Alexander who is dead, to a joint letter to me, Cassel, Hughes, and Hooper, all dead, to the dead of the dead Cassel, and another sent to Dr. Williamson, now probably dead, whose memory did not recollect in this history he had written of North Carolina, this gigantic step of its colony of Mecklenburg. Harry, too, is silent in his history of [Genl.] Marion, whose scenes of action was the country bordering on Mecklenburg. Ramsey, Marshall, Jones, Gravard, Wirt, historians of the adjacent states, all silent. When Mr. [Patrick] Henry's resolutions, for a sort of independence (March, 1775), now likewise taking through every paper and kind of book of the Atlantic, the same duration of the same date, of the independence of Mecklenburg, Harry, too, is silent in his history of North Carolina, asserting it from British allegiance, and aljuring all political connection with that nation, although silent to Congress, too. It never heard of it. It is not known to a twelvemonth after, when a similar proposition a division in itself, Armed with this last example, would not you have addressed our timid brethren in peaks of thunder, on their tardy ears? Would not every advocate of independence have rung the glories of Mecklenburg County, in North Carolina, in the ears of the doubtful Dickinson and others, who hung so heavily on us? Yet the example of Mecklenburg County, in North Carolina, was never once quoted.

On page 343 we read that on the 3d of February the bill to establish county government came up on its third reading, when the following proceedings were had:

Mr. Dunn moved to amend:

"Amend section 4 by striking out 'General Assembly' and insert 'the qualified voters of the several counties of the State.'"

Upon which he called the ayes and nays.

Mr. Cunningham demanded the previous question, which was sustained."

The ayes and noes were ordered upon Mr. Dunn's amendment, and it was lost; ayes 8, nays 24."

Mr. Folk was one of the 24 who voted no.

On page 344 we find that the bill, then passed its third reading, yes 25, nays 18, and that Mr. Folk was one of the 25 who voted yes.

Below is the full text of the bill recently passed by the House of Representatives reducing the Internal Revenue. It will be seen that only the rich monopolists are much benefited while the working people are to continue paying taxes. What difference does it make to the large number of people whether bank checks are taxed or not? Here is the bill.

"Be it enacted, &c. That on and after the passage of this act, except as herein-after provided, the taxes herein-specified imposed by the internal revenue laws now in force be and the same are hereby repealed, namely:

The stamp tax on bank check, drafts, orders and vouchers; the tax on the capital and deposits of the banks and bankers under section thirty-four hundred and eight of the Revised Statutes of the United States as amended; the tax on capital and deposits of national banks under section 524 of said Revised Statutes, not including taxes on the capital and deposits of said banks, bankers and national banks for the six months period ending in the case of national banks on the thirtieth day of June, 1852, and in the case of other banks and bankers on the thirty-first day of May, 1852; the tax on matches, perfumery, medicinal preparations and other articles imposed by schedule A, following section thirty-four hundred and thirty-seven of said Revised Statutes."

Section 2. That from and after the 1st of May, 1852, dealers in leaf tobacco shall pay \$12, in manufactured tobacco \$2.00, all manufacturers of cigars \$3, manufacturers of cigars \$4. Peddlers of tobacco, snuff and cigar shall pay special taxes, as follows: Peddlers of the first class, as now defined by law, \$10; second class, \$15; third class, \$7.20; fourth class, 3.60; retail dealers in leaf tobacco, 2.50, and thirty cents for each dollar or the amount of their monthly sales in excess of the sale of aum.

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