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THE TWO THEORIES STATED FAIRLY.

Every one who has correct information knows that the Republican party has decided leanings to a strong government. Its leaders all, or nearly all, believe in great centralized power. Only the other day Senator Miller, of New York, said this, speaking for his party:

"We believe that this is a *nation* and that the *supreme sovereignty* of this country resides in *the General Government* and not in the States. This is the doctrine of the Republican party."

Mark this. Here is stated correctly what the Republican leaders hold. Do you believe in it? Oh, reader, do you hold that the "supreme authority resides in the General Government?" If you do, then you are a Stalwart, friend of the enemy of civil liberty, of local self-government, of the Constitution as framed by the wise men of the past and as expounded by the ablest men among the framers.

If the "supreme authority" resides in fact "in the General Government" then the Government established by our forefathers is overthrown already. Who had heard in seventy-five years, until Radicalism came in as a great controlling power, of the General Government being the Master? Who ever heard of the United *States* being a Nation—a strong consolidated power—until Radicalism began its war upon the Constitution and upon the people?

Let us go to Boston and get a clear reply to this New York Senator, who appears to have lost sight of that grand instrument—the Constitution—which is the people's safe-guard and break-water against the incoming tide of despotism. Says the Boston *Post:*

"The Democratic party believes that *supreme sovereignty is in the people.* The Federal Government is of *limited jurisdiction,* to be confined to express grants of the Constitution or powers incident thereto. Within this sphere it can act without question, but *all its power is delegated to it* for national purposes, as specified in the written instrument, but no further. The State governments are also of limited jurisdiction, and to be confined to the powers delegated to them. The Federal Government cannot invade the exclusive powers of the State, or the latter those of the former. All powers not delegated to these dual governments still inhere in the people."

This is clear and true, every word of it. The theory of the Republican party is destructive of the rights of the people. Says Senator Miller, the General Government is boss, has "supreme authority;" nay, is the *source* of power. The Democratic party, in eternal and violent antagonism, declares with emphasis, with earnestness, this is not so. It is treason to say it, for *the people* are the source of all political power; *the people* are the Masters, are the Sovereigns. This is the whole truth. Herein lies the great, underlying, undying difference between the two parties. The one denies to the people the power that inheres in them, that resides in them; the other declares that the General Government is the great Boss that can control the very liberties of the people and deprive them of their liberties, for it is "Supreme" and all "Sovereignty" resides in it. That it is the *source* of all power.

That is the greatest political heresy that ever cursed our country. Once universally adopted, and our Constitution is a nullity, a rope of sand, a spider's web. Once adopted, and good-bye forever to civil and religious liberty on these shores.

There are some Democrats who can see but little difference between the two parties. With them it is only a question of "ins" and "outs." Thank God, with hundreds and thousands and millions it is a question of *principle.* The very bed-rock of Democracy is *that the Government is based upon the will and consent of the people.* Never forget that. Never be led away from it for one day. Never vote with any party or for any person who denies it. *The people* in this great, free, prosperous country have been heretofore the Masters. The Government was the servant of the people.

But, say the Republicans, all this is changed. The people are no longer masters, but servants. Their creature has grown greater than the Creator. The General Government is Master, is Supreme. Such a doctrine, such a declaration, deserves eternal execration. Are the people ready to surrender their liberties? Shall the great principles of free government be abandoned on the American Continent?

When the war of the Revolution had ended and America was free, it is known to all students of history that each of the old thirteen Colonies was recognized in the treaty with Great Britain separately, and that having become States by the results of war they were each a separate, independent, sovereign Commonwealth or Republic. If they had each so elected they would have remained to this day without any Confederates. For the purposes of common defence, each State being thinly populated and comparatively weak as a war power—each sovereign, independent, separate Commonwealth or Republic entered into a compact forming a Federal Union of States on certain clearly defined terms and conditions, which are embodied in the document known and read of some men as the Constitution of the United States. *The American Register* thus presents correctly and felicitously the specifications of that instrument—the Great Charter of freemen:

"The powers delegated to the Government of the Union were specifically defined, and coupled with the express declaration that all powers not therein delegated to the United States, nor prohibited to the States, were reserved to the States respectively, or to the people. Thus were the powers of government so defined and divided as to preserve the existence of each State as a distinct republic within itself for purposes of internal, municipal, and local government. And in the formation of the Union the people of each State acted separately and distinctly for themselves. So that the Federal Government became in fact *a Republic* of Republics; in other words, a republic constituted by Republican States, each preserving at the time, to the extent of its reserved rights, its own identity as a State."

The greatest men of the North, as well as the greatest statesmen of the South, have maintained always that the States were sovereign and the Union dependent on the will of these States. We will copy now but a few sentences in which this doctrine is held. Mr. Madison said:

"Each State in ratifying the Constitution is considered as a *sovereign body, independent of all others,* and only to be bound by *its own voluntary* act. In this relation the new Constitution will be a Federal and *not* a *national* Constitution."

Daniel Webster held:

"*The only parties* to the Constitution, contemplated by it originally, were the *thirteen confederated States.*"

Edward Everett said in 1860, just as the war was threatening:

"A union of *co-equal sovereign States* requires, as its basis, *the harmony of its members,* and their voluntary co-operation in its organic functions."

The High Priest of Republicanism, William H. Seward, said in 1865:

"The States *were* before the Union *was.*" * * * "Our Federal Republic forever must exist through *the combination of these several free, self-existing, stubborn States.*"

The Supreme Court has held since the war in explicit terms the same doctrine. But we have not space to quote. Here we have the testimony and opinion of three of the great Northern leaders of the past, and they taught what Jefferson, Madison and Calhoun taught, the able statesmen of the South.

Since the above was prepared President Arthur has spoken well at Yorktown. His short speech is excellent as to language and sentiment. We are glad to hear him speaking as a patriot who loved freedom and understood that in this country the *people* are the sovereigns. Hear him, and gather hope and assurance from the utterances:

"Then and there was established, and, as we trust, made secure upon this continent for ages yet to come, that principle of government which is the very fibre of our political system—*the sovereignty of the people.* * * * But it is altogether fitting that we should gather here to refresh our souls with contemplations on the unfaltering patriotism, sturdy zeal and sublime faith which achieved the results we now commemorate; for so, if we learn aright the lesson of the hour, shall we be incited to transmit to generations which shall follow the precious legacy which our fathers left to us—*the love of liberty protected by law.*"

Precious truths fitly spoken. Let the sentiment and animating principle of every patriotic American be that embodied in the fine saying of the illustrious statesman of Massachusetts—"The Union and the Constitution, now and forever, one and inseparable."

THE THICKENING STORM.

We have not seen the manifesto issued by the Land League. The brief reference to it in our dispatches of yesterday shows that the leaders are acting on the right plan—that of passive resistance. If they will stick to this and forbear open resistance with armed force, they will use a weapon that will prove too much for the Liberal Ministry and too much for Tory preferences. They repeat the sentiment of Edmund Burke, to which we referred yesterday, when they declare that "it is no more possible to evict than it is to imprison a whole nation." If all Ireland resolves upon paying no rents, then the Government is powerless. It may attempt to crush by brute force, but it will prove a stupendous failure and bring only reproach upon those who inspire and favor it. The Irish have only to unite and persist without resorting to insurrection to thwart the purposes and plans of the English Government. Arbitrary arrests will accomplish more in the unification of the Irish than all of the speeches of the Land League leaders could accomplish in years.

For hundreds of years Ireland has been oppressed by England. That much is history. Lord Macaulay, in some of his masterly speeches in Parliament fifty years ago, dwelt upon these oppressions as a shame and an outrage. In the beginning English rule was established by brute force. Some of the most painful records of oppression we have ever read were written by the great poet, Edmund Spenser, who lived in Ireland for many years and was for sometime in the employment of the British Government. From that time until now there has been gross and inexcusable misrule. It is because of this that the STAR is the friend of Ireland and would rejoice in seeing it ruled by Irishmen. We would be glad to see all Irishmen treated as freemen.

They will move on towards the hour of deliverance if they avoid open conflict with the British Government. The true way, as we believe, is passive resistance, not revolution or insurrection by force. They are resolved, if we may judge by the latest accounts, upon getting rid of all landlords. To this end they will refuse to pay all rents. How England can imprison a whole people or evict them remains to be seen.

EDUCATION IN THE SOUTH.

Some one has sent us the number of the *International Review* containing the paper of Mr. Walter H. Page, now of Missouri, but a native of this State. We have read it with interest. It is a clear, suggestive, and in the main fair discussion of an important subject—"The Southern Educational Problem." The extracts we saw from it and the accompanying comments in two Northern dailies did injustice to Mr. Page. Our own comments, based upon what we saw in those papers, also did him injustice. We have found but two or three passages in the whole article that we would have had changed. As a whole it is good, and shows a careful study of the educational system. His first paragraph is this:

"The greatest need of the South is popular and practical education. The greatest hindrance to education is popular indifference."

We have written something like that often. Those who have followed the discussion of education in these columns during the last three years have met with frequent regrets that our people as a whole were lamentable indifferent to the claims of education, were neglectful of the best interests of their children, were allowing the negroes to eclipse them in zeal for mental improvement, were ignorant of the real advantages that attach to education viewed *commercially* even, and were more careful to educate the girls than the boys. We are gratified to find another North Carolinian taking hold of the great problem in earnest and discussing it with so much ability and clearness. He says truly that "indifference is worse than ignorance," and that "school-houses are needed more than cotton factories." He thinks there is much need for a change of methods and for qualified teachers. All this we believe most steadfastly. The chief burden of our discussions in editorial after editorial has been the almost incurable indifference of our people, the lack of money, the defectiveness of the common school system. With the small amount of money allowed, the poor salaries, the ignorant teachers employed, the very short school terms, it was thought impossible that very much good could be done. It has appeared that the chief legacy of the coming generation would be a very dense ignorance.

The methods before the war may have been very defective, but the young men of thirty years ago upon an average knew a great deal more than the same class knows now. Not only did the boys of that day have better advantages, but they improved them more. Not all, but a majority of them did this. A knowledge of polite literature was more common then among the middle and upper classes than now.

In one particular there has been a decided change and for the better. The people generally are better informed as to public affairs now than they were before the war. The four years of conflict were a great educator of the masses. The war sharpened the intellects of tens of thousands of men and gave them a breadth, too, of understanding they would have been strangers to forever if they had remained at home. North Carolinians read the papers a great deal more than they did thirty years ago. There are four times as many copies of papers published in this State as there were a quarter of a century ago But there is less knowledge of books—less profound information. It is a rare thing to meet a man now well versed in the literature of the world, ancient and modern. It was not so difficult to find such persons three or four decades since.

We knew two farmers, living in a half mile of each other, who read the ancient classics constantly, and were more familiar with Shakespeare, Chaucer, Virgil and Horace than cultivated men of these days are with Tennyson and Robt. Browning. We know a lawyer of the old school who is familiar with Greek, Latin and Hebrew, and can read three or four modern languages. A quarter of a century ago, in a village in North Carolina, of not more than eight hundred inhabitants, there were at least twenty-five gentlemen who could have prepared intelligent and well written essays on many topics. The same village has now twice the inhabitants with probably no increase of educated and disciplined minds. Mr. Page says:

"The ignorance of one generation causes a more stolid ignorance in the next; and when improper methods acquire an hereditary sanction, a change means revolution."

He gives some statistics from the census of 1870 that are known to most of our readers. That census showed that of the entire population in the free States over ten years of age there was but 3.9 per cent. who could not *read.* In the former slave States the figures were 78.1 per cent. In the South there were 1,403,130 whites and 2,660,809 blacks who could not *write.* The slave States contained a third of the population and four-fifths of the illiteracy.

But there is improvement since then in the South. The census of 1880 as to educational statistics has not yet been published. The report of the Commissioner of Education for 1877 showed progress in the South. In the North the per centage of population attending school was 40, and in the South it was 24.3. The school days in the North 135; in the South 100. The most disheartening statistics were those which represented the sums expended for education. In the North for 1877, $70,615,662 was expended; in the South $9,485,625. There were 114 colleges, in the South, with 935 instructors, and 14,480 pupils. The last census will reveal a still further advance. We may recur to Mr. Page's paper at another time for suggestion and reflection.

It must not be lost sight of that among the illiterates in the South are included the former slaves. It is the duty of the North after liberating them to educate them. This it is doing only on a very circumscribed scale. A few millions are all that the North has given to the great work of preparing the enfranchised negro for citizenship.

VICIOUS LITERATURE—INGERSOLLISM.

If the *North American Review* continues to open its pages to the advocates of the most blatant and self-confident infidelity, we would suppose that its subscription among Christian people would be diminished very greatly. No man likes to introduce into his house mephitic poisons. No father can *innocently* place within reach of his children books and periodicals that are hurtful to the morals or calculated to disturb their belief in revealed religion. The father himself may by study and patient investigation have so grounded himself in the precious doctrines of Christianity as to be uninfluenced for harm in reading the learned attacks of Baur and Strauss, or the eloquent scepticism of Renan, or the ingenious criticisms of some of the English Agnostics; but what may prove innocuous to him may be ruinous to his child. It is a very serious responsibility assumed when we introduce into our homes the poison of infidelity however sugar-coated or bitter. No magazine or review is fit for the library or table of a Christian household that is the vehicle of unchastened, vulgar, flippant attacks upon the religion of Jesus, however relieved by sallies of wit, or bright with the scintillations of genius, or eloquent with the passion of an earnest, unquiet and unsanctified heart. No Christian man can afford to pay for assaults upon his faith. No father, who believes in God only, and discredits the Lord Christ, can consistently give to his children a publication that teems with ribaldry and scoffings and insults and horrid blasphemies tricked out in fascinating style and made influential by a bold and persuasive and passionate rhetoric. The hearthstone should be kept sacred. No pollution in any literary shape should be allowed to enter. Fathers guard well the purity and sanctity of your homes.

The Baltimore *Gazette* has a well timed editorial on the abuse of the public in such publications as Ingersoll's hired assault upon the Christian religion through the pages of an old and widely circulated monthly Review. We quote a paragraph or so that is germain to what we have said. It remarks:

"To us it seems a grave error on the part of the publishers. It certainly enables Ingersoll to speak to many auditors, who under other circumstances would never hear his ribald abuse of holy things. In this way the insidious poison enters the veins and does its work long before the unsuspecting victim feels the fatal effects in his system. In assuming this position we must not be misunderstood. We would not abridge, in the slightest degree, free thought, free speech, free discussion. As long as men keep within the limits of the law they should be allowed to write and say and publish what they please, and no one should attempt to molest them or make them afraid. The rest of the world need not, unless they choose, read infidel books or go to infidel lectures or stop by the wayside to listen to the blasphemous utterances of paid defamers of the Christian faith. * * * * * The unguarded introduction of what is called free discussion on religious topics in popular magazines and newspapers feeds the flame of infidelity and causes it to spread with fearful rapidity in localities where its withering blight should never reach. No one who does not make it his business to examine this curious phase of the public mind can have any idea of the advanced opinions on religious questions which are now not only tolerated but absolutely adopted in certain quarters where mental vigor is supposed to be in excess of moral restraint."

If the publishers of the *North American,* D. Appleton & Co., were to give notice in advance that a certain number of infidel articles would appear during the year then the Christians could keep their five dollars each in their pockets and avoid the trap. But this is not done. No one questions the right of Ingersoll or any other exponent of the gospel of unbelief to write as they may prefer, but the point is that a monthly publication has no right to take a snap judgment and force such wares upon the unsuspecting readers without due warning. Let Ingersoll rave. If the press at large would let him alone severely, and if the pulpits would not dignify him by special reference he would soon lose his power and Ingersollism would be a name without significancy. There is nothing new in him. Every man of theological reading has met his objections before. He shoots the old arrows, but from a new American bow. That is all. We venture to say that you cannot find one point or argument in all Ingersoll says that has not been said before in some book of the past.

The poison of infidelity has never made any great impression as yet on the purely American mind. Of American born citizens you will find but few intelligent scoffers at the Christian religion. We never met an Irishman; nay, we do not now recall the name of a single Irishman who rejected the Gospel of the Lord Jesus. Our people, if not all personal believers, respect the truth as revealed in the Scriptures of Inspiration, and believe that national progress is based on Christianity. Among Americans where one convert to Ingersollism—that begins in vanity and ends in *nothing*—in Nihilism—in a denial of all good—can be made, there will be a thousand who will glory in the Cross and cling to the promises of the Word of Jehovah. They know that all forms of infidelity are destructive, that Ingersollism believes in nothing, gives nothing, holds out no light and no hope. It is a blank. It is destructive. It sweeps away all purity, all consolation, all hope of a higher and better and nobler life beyond, and leaves nothing to stand upon when the Judgment—the *Dies Iræ*—comes and the world shall be calcined amid the renovating fires of the last day.

Mrs. M. B. Clarke sharply criticizes Mr. Mills's management of the Oxford Orphan Asylum in the Raleigh *Farmer and Mechanic.* Mr. Mills, we have no doubt, does all he can with the means furnished him. He is able, indefatigable, devoted thoroughly to his work, and the orphans *love* him. His like cannot be found in the State, we think, for the place. If so, who is he? We know something of his management, and whilst not perfect, it is better, we have no doubt, than any other management would be. But he is clear-headed and writes with a vigor and terseness that few can equal. He can take care of himself in any controversy.

Democratic Senators are much disappointed and embittered in the action taken by Senator Davis. Many of them speak in decided terms in their condemnation. The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Times* writes on the 18th:

"There is a general feeling among the Democrats that Davis should be ostracised, as was Senator Mahone. 'No gentleman should speak to him,' says one Democrat. 'He cannot get a pair from his side of the Chamber,' says another. 'I regard the sale of Davis worse than the bargain and sale of Mahone,' says another Democratic Senator. 'Mahone sold himself to the Republicans for the promotion of his friends, while Davis sold himself for his own personal elevation.' This is strong language, coming from Senators of the United States toward a brother Senator, but it is weak enough as an expression of the estimation in which Mr. Davis is held at present by the Democratic Senators."

We notice that in the North there is much fear felt for the safety of Professor King, the æronaut, and Mr. Hashagan, who accompanied him. It will be remembered that Donaldson and Wise were both lost, after making many ascensions. The Philadelphia *Times* takes this encouraging view:

"The balloon is the best and strongest ever constructed in this country and the æronaut is the most careful man who ever made an ascent. He is thoroughly familiar with every detail of his perilous profession, and has acquired a valuable scientific knowledge of air currents and atmospherical disturbances. But all his knowledge would be of no avail in certain contingencies. He went up in a storm and it is to be feared he came down in a tempest. If the winds drove his balloon over the great forests of Wisconsin the worst is to be feared."

Archbishop Croke's letter protesting against the Land League manifesto is much talked of in Ireland and is having a decided influence. He has been the uncompromising enemy of landlordism. He says, however, that the doctrine of "no rent" will not do.

Foreign Shipments Yesterday.

The shipments to foreign ports yesterday embraced the following: The German barquentine *Maria Sophia,* Capt. Sachan, for Rio de Janeiro, by Messrs. Parsley & Wiggins, with 260,843 feet of lumber, valued at $4,306 91; the British barque *Joe Read,* Capt. Edwards, for Liverpool, by Messrs. Alex. Sprunt & Son, with 1,900 bales of cotton and 500 barrels of rosin, valued at $95,200; and the schooner *Melrose,* Capt. Lufkin, for Jeremie, Hayti by Messrs. Northrop & Cumming, with 115,788 feet of lumber and 208,850 shingles, valued at $3,069 99. Total foreign exports for the day $102,573 90.

Spirits Turpentine.

— The Tarboro Fair is on the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th of November.

— Durham *Plant:* The North Carolina Conference convenes in annual session, in Durham, on the 23d day of November.

— Raleigh *News-Observer:* D. R. Walker writes us that great preparations are being made for the Fair soon to be held at Tarboro. —— Mr. William Prince died at Wake Forest yesterday.

— Elizabeth City *Economist:* The quality of the cotton this year, owing to the long-continued dry weather during the picking season, will be better than usual. There will be very little "stained cotton."

— The Greensboro *Protestant* reports 32 conversions on Randolph circuit, 23 conversions and 17 additions on Haw River circuit, 22 additions on Monroe circuit, Forsyth circuit 34 conversions, 51 additions.

— Raleigh *Biblical Recorder* reports revivals as follows: Enon, Yadkin county, 5 baptisms; Sulphur Springs, Alexander, 19 baptisms; Piney Grove, 25 baptisms; Mocksville, 5 professions; Old Fort, 6 baptisms.

— Hillsboro *Recorder:* George Overby, a poor, unfortunate drunken white man, was before Dr. O. Hooker, J. P., last Monday, charged with stealing a bridle. On failing to give bond, he was sent to jail.

— Oxford *Torchlight:* Mr. Thomas Rice, an old and worthy citizen of Granville, died at his house in Oxford township on the 6th inst. He had reached the ripe old age of 90 years, and was a soldier and pensioner of the war of 1812.

— The Raleigh *Advocate* reports revivals as follows: Thomasville, sixty converts; Onslow circuit, thirteen converts; Franklinsville circuit, twenty-seven converts, fifteen additions; Montgomery circuit, eighty-eight converts, thirty-three additions.

— Mt. Airy *News:* The C. F. & Y. B. R. R. has been graded to a point twenty-two miles North of Greensboro, towards Mt. Airy. —— Mt. Airy has more different kinds of manufacturing enterprises to her size than any other place in North Carolina.

— New Berne *News:* Yesterday afternoon Miss Rosa Schwerin, aged ten years, was thrown from her pony on Broad street, opposite the residence of Mr. Wm. Hollister, and remained insensible for a considerable time after being taken to her father's house.

— Oxford *Free Lance:* It affords us pleasure to note that the bright tobacco of Granville was properly appreciated at the State Fair. The Gilliam Fertilizer Company had offered a premium of $50 in gold for the best exhibition of bright tobacco, and this was accorded to Mr. Irvin Green, of Tally Ho township.

— Graham *Leaner:* At the fair, Mr. Charles Kerr took premiums to the amount of seventy-five dollars. Robert Scott took several premiums on farm products. —— The Episcopal Church at Company Shops is to have a rector again. Rev. Alfred H. Stubbs is to take charge of the church there and at Greensboro.

— Weldon *News:* Last Monday night, about 11½ o'clock, on the cars at Wilson, a colored man by the name of Curry Hill, was shot and instantly killed by Benjamin Moy, of Pitt county. —— We do not believe there is any money in the Bank of England belonging to the Confederate Government. Some time during last summer we saw a private letter written by Mr. Benjamin in answer to one addressed to him on this subject. He said there never had been any money in England belonging to the late Confederacy, except a few odds and ends which he got together and turned over to Col. McRae, of Wilmington, who appropriated them to the use of ex-President Davis and his family while Mr. Davis was in prison. He also said if there had been any such money there the English holders of Confederate bonds would have seized it.

— Fayetteville *Examiner:* Mr. J. M. Lamb, of Fayetteville, had on exhibition at the State Fair 300 green-house plants, evergreens, shrubs and rustic stands. —— The present high prices of grain and meat must set our farmers to reflecting on the expediency of changing the system of agriculture practiced in the South. —— On Tuesday night last Mr. Alex. McPherson, the Judge of Probate and Clerk of the Superior Court of Cumberland county, died at his residence in this place. —— Senator M. W. Ransom writes us from Washington that he will look out for the appropriation already made to improve the navigation of the Cape Fear river between this place and Wilmington, and see that it does not lapse; and he will do what he says. —— A telegram was received here last Tuesday by Mr. R. McMillan stating that Mr. John O. Barberry, formerly of Sampson county, but for several years a citizen of Georgia, died at Cochran, Ga., on that day (October 17th) of typhoid fever.

— Charlotte *Observer:* To show what a moral reform has come over Charlotte, the fact is cited that five years ago there were about a half dozen faro banks running—from the ten cent institution, run by a benevolent sport for the benefit of the poor, to the $25 stack games with the limit what you liked. For the last four months, at least, a Scotland yard detective couldn't find a place to buy a stack of whites for love or money. —— A prominent railroad man of this city says he thinks before many years all the roads will be changed to the four-foot-eight-inch gauge. The roads of the Richmond & Danville Co. are about the only ones in the South five feet wide. —— Two entertainments at the Opera House and a hanging at the jail are the events for the week. Forepaugh's "biggest show in the world" week after next. —— The Florida travel is increasing. The trains on the Charlotte, Columbia & Augusta are almost daily crowded. —— Col. Buford, of the Richmond & Danville, is a North Carolinian. He was raised in Mocksville. —— As the passenger train was leaving Wadesboro, day before yesterday evening, a young man named Archie McDonald, from Rockingham, fell between the cars. The wheels passed over his left arm just above the hand, severing it almost entirely in two.

— Tarboro *Southerner:* On Monday, the 10th inst., the stock feeder on Capt. R. C. Brown's plantation gave his stock what he took to be salt. It was soon discovered to be a chemical fertilizer resembling salt, and four fine mules died from the effect of the dose. Others that didn't eat quite so much, became sick, but have recovered. —— A meeting of the representative citizens of Edgecombe county, all sections, of the county being well represented, was held at the Court House, in Tarboro on Tuesday, the 18th of October. On motion, Gen. W. G. Lewis was called to the chair and F. Powell, Esq., requested to act as Secretary. The chairman called upon Walter P. Williamson, Esq., to explain the object of the meeting, who, in substance, said that the citizens of Edgecombe being cordially in sympathy with the movement to check the growing power of monopolics in their excessive charges and unjust and oppressive discriminations against the cities and towns of the State and the people of North Carolina, had met to give expression to their solemn protest and to memorialize the Legislature for relief. Walter P. Williamson, H. L. Staton, Sr., John A. Davis, B. J. Keech and Dr. Wm. Lawrence were appointed a committee to draft resolutions responsive to the object of the meeting.