Carolina Sentinel.

VOL. IX. NEWBERN, N. C. SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1826. No 435.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, BY
WATSON & MACHEN,
at $3 per annum—half payable in advance

FOR THE SENTINEL.

Celebration of the 4th of July.

On the 4th inst. a large number of the most respectable citizens of Lenoir met together at Kinston to do honour to the 50th Anniversary of American Independence. At 12 o'clock they assembled at the Oaks near the river bank, and moved in procession to the Court-House, where the Declaration of Independence was read by BLOUNT COLEMAN, Esq. and the following Oration was delivered by Mr. RICHARD S. CROOM:

Fellow Citizens,

Fifty years have elapsed since our ancestors, actuated by that ardent love of liberty, which had before prompted them to submit to so many dangers and privations, declared to an admiring world, "that these United States are, and of right out to be, free and independent States." Half a century has already lent its sanction to the stability of our government, and thus far refuted the malignant predictions of our enemies, who confidently asserted its speedy dismemberment from the discordant elements of which it was composed. A few remarks therefore on the stability of our form of government, cannot but be interesting to those who have lived under its laws, and enjoyed the advantages of its free institutions. Will our posterity, to the latest generations, continue to enjoy unimpaired, all the inestimable rights guaranteed to us by our constitution? Will our children and grand children assemble on the 4th of July, 1876, which shall usher in the first century of American Independence, blest with all the privileges we now enjoy? It is said by those who love to brood over the ruins of empires, that if we survey the seats of ancient civilization and learning, what a melancholy picture do they present—where once were laws wielded in the conscious dignity of his nature—science pushed her researches to the utmost barriers of creation, defining the laws by which all created matter is held together and exists—where art erected her noblest monuments, are now but a heap of ruins. Nay, some are so obliterated from the face of earth, that the passing traveller can scarcely tell where lies the mighty Babylon. And thou too, imperial Rome, once the proud arbitress of the world—how art thou fallen from thy mighty estate? In the times of the imperial Cæsars thou gavest laws to a submissive world. Now thou art insulted by every petty despot!

> "The Babylonian spires are sunk;
> Persia, Rome and Egypt moulder down.
> Time shakes the stable tyranny of thrones,
> And tottering empires rush by their own weight."

It is asked, how can *we* expect to escape the fate of all the countries that have preceded us; this general wreck of empires? For as man is born in weakness, gradually acquires strength—and is at last overtaken by old age, decrepitude and death—such too, they insist, is the natural and inevitable progress of civil communities; of the body politic, as of the natural body.

But this analogical method of argumentation, will not hold when applied to our government. The vast improvement which has been made in all the arts and sciences during the last two centuries, has far advanced them beyond the rude elements in which many of them had their birth existed. Three hundred and thirty years ago, when Columbus, actuated by that daring and restless spirit of enterprise, which ever characterizes great and original minds, ventured upon the then unexplored ocean, in search of a new world, the timorous navigator scarcely trusted his rude bark beyond the coast. Now with the simple improvement of the compass, the common seaman can explore the most distant and dangerous seas. The invention of the press, and consequent diffusion of knowledge has tended much to the equalization of mankind in their intellectual acquirements and to break down those artificial ranks in society whose aggrandizement was effected by depressing the lower orders, and holding them alike in ignorance and vassallage. Amidst this general improvement, the science of government has not been stationary; but it has moved *pari passu* with its sister sciences; and it is this day as much superior to what it was in the days of Solon and Lycurgus, as is the gallant ship that sails over the bosom of the ocean to the birchen canoe of the Indians.

The most deadly enemy to the peace and prosperity of the ancient republics, particularly that of Athens, were factious demagogues who continually excited the people to banish, by the ostracism, their most able and virtuous citizens. Thus the patriot who spent his days and nights in anxious solicitude for the welfare of his country, had no security for his safety, and though lately at the summit of popular applause, he might be banished by their caprice, to a remote and inhospitable island. Of this, the fortunes of Themistocles, Aristides and Coriolanus are a sufficient illustration. And though the illustrious De Witt! in times more modern, experienced a cruelty [illegible] than that of the ostracism. But our country is happily exempted from such effects of machination and caprice, by the superior intelligence of the people and the better organization of the government. One important principle, that of *representation*, unknown to them, gives us a vast advantage over all former republics. By this it is, coupled with the federative form of our government, that the number and limits of these states may be indefinitely extended; their beauteous constellation may be spread from the Atlantic even to the shores of the Pacific. But commotions in this country, can by no means have those deadly effects as they did in the ancient democracies. In the republics of antiquity, and those of Southern Europe, though some of them extended over a considerable territory, all the business whether of peace or war, was transacted at the principal cities, as Athens, Rome, Carthage, Sparta; and a commotion in one of these places would shake the government to its foundation. The conspiracy of Cataline at Rome shook the imperial city to its centre, and called forth all the eloquence of her Tully to stay the hand of the daring conspirator. Rome was drenched in the blood of her citizens and the flower of her youth fell in the unhappy contest.

But the Regulators of North-Carolina were scarcely felt beyond the sphere of their action, and they soon fell back into impotence and obscurity. The insurrection of 1794, though one of serious aspect, was quelled without shedding a single drop of human blood. Nor was the commotion perceptibly felt beyond its [illegible] spread as our country is over a vast extent of territory, from Maine on the north to the gulph of Mexico on the south, from the Atlantic to the Missouri, a commotion in one part would no more disturb the tranquility of the rest, than a solitary wave ruffle the whole surface of the ocean. But some have pretended that our government, like that of ancient Rome must fall from its own extensiveness and the weight of its force:

> Roma suis et ipsis viribus ruit.

But here again the mistake arises from applying the false reasoning of analogy, or from not thoroughly examining the nature of the two governments. The Romans from a small and adventitious tribe gradually extended their dominion by successive conquests over the greater part of the ancient world. An empire composed of such heterogeneous parts was ever ready to fall to pieces by any violent concession of the mighty mass. To use the language of astronomy, the centrifugal force was not counterbalanced by the centripetal; but the parts of the empire were ever ready to fly off into the regions of chaos and confusion. But our country is happily in a very different condition. The states that compose our federal union deriving their origin from the same common parent have the same interests and pursuits; free from that jarring discrepance that tore asunder the republics of Greece and Italy. While every state that is added to the union increases its strength, the general government presides over the whole, and like the sun in the solar system, preserves them in their proper orbits. Some have supposed that the southern and western parts of the union will be too far removed from the seat of government; in so much that weeks and months will be consumed in the interchange of communications. But here we may look for improvements that shall in a great measure obviate the difficulty. Such are already the advantages introduced *by steam*, such the celerity of movement which it gives, that places separated many degrees in latitude, are by the improvement, as it were, brought nigh to each other. It seems, indeed, as if the genius of the illustrious Fulton had gone forth to achieve the annihilation of the defects of space. And as we now behold the magnificent steam-boat gliding on the bosom of our mighty waters, so at no distant day, may we see the loaded wagon and the travelling car driven by the same magic power, along the interminable highways of our wide spread territory. Oh! even more than half realized is the hopeful and prophetic anticipation of Darwin:

> "Soon shall thine arm, unconquered steam, afar
> Drive the dull barge and roll the rapid car."

What a picture does [illegible] retrospective view of the governments of continental Europe for the last fifty years present? While the politicians of the old world, confidingly predicted that no government could not stand the test of experience, it has weathered out the convulsions which shook to earth the most stable tyrannies of Europe; convulsions which the supporters of despotic power appeared to behold [illegible] founded on an eternal basis. Yes! many hearers, in the [illegible] of some of them, we have beheld [illegible] to the view, with a sword in one hand and a fire-brand in the other, carnage in his train, conquest, devastation and dismay. Not one of the governments of Europe that did not feel the effects of this terrible tornado, as it swept over the continent, involving in one common ruin, all ranks and conditions of men. While the friends of liberty and the rights of man were [illegible] with dismay the general wreck of all civil institutions, [illegible] Britain, under the administration of an illustrious statesman, was the only power that opposed an efficient [illegible] the mad career of this Gallic power.

We are, my fellow citizens, from a very natural prejudice, apt to view the British nation with feelings of enmity and mistrust. We are wont to consider them as the natural enemies of our liberties. But it requires only an impartial view of the subject to perceive, that much of the rational freedom that the world has seen, originally sprang from the British constitution. Our ancestors imbibed the ideas of liberty by reposing under the spacious edifice which has long been the admiration of the world; and, instead of viewing Britain, as a girdle of Britain, we should embrace her sons as kinsmen and fellow champions in the great cause of liberty. Americans! you have cause to be proud of your ancestors. You have not, like the proud Greeks and Romans, to conceal the foul [illegible] of your origin by tracing it back to some fabled god of antiquity, but you can point with exultation to a country where every [illegible] of exalts and dignifies human nature is to be found—from the sublime mountains, to the deep and scrutinizing researches of her New-England Locks; and the reach of imagination; defining the laws by which the [illegible] are wheeled unshaken through the void immense; ascertaining with precision the magnitude of their orbits, the celerity of their motion, and the periods of their revolutions. Who can doubt but he is sprung from such ancestors and not feel a glow of honest pride and exultation?

Fifty years ago the spirit of the Greeks and Romans alone forth in our country. Our Congress canvassed the [illegible] Warren die like Leonidas, and Washington like Cincinnatus, triumphed and returned. May we not hope that the spirit of such ancestors will long survive in their descendants? Neither we, nor they, will ever crouch to the despot's rod, or quail in asserting those rights and sentiments which has this day been read to us from that noble declaration, as fifty years ago, they were promulgated to the astonishment and admiration of the world.

The company again formed a procession, being joined by a number of respectable strangers from the surrounding counties, and walked up to the residence of Mr. WILLIAM L. B. PEARCE, where they sat down to a handsome dinner, prepared by Mr. Pearce. Not less than one hundred guests were at the table. ISAAC CROOM, Esq officiated as President, aided by ROBERT W. GOODMAN, Esq. as Vice-President. When the cloth was removed, the following regular Toasts were drank, amidst the roar of artillery and the soul-stirring sounds of the fife and drum:

1st, *The day we celebrate:* Let us remember our political Sabbath day to keep it holy.

2nd, *Washington:* His fame will continue bright, until "the great globe itself, and all which it inherits, shall dissolve."

3d, *The heroes of '76:* Martyrs in a holy cause; millions of unborn sons will hereafter arise to bless them as the authors of their political happiness.

4th, *The United States:* A constellation which will increase in splendour, until its radiance illuminates the world.

5th, *The President!* We know him to be able, we trust he will prove upright.

6th, *Greece:* The birth-place of freedom and of letters; may the Ottoman share the fate of Xerxes.

7th, *South America:* Stability and perfection to her free institutions.

8th, *Thomas Jefferson:* "He has done the state some service and they know it;" let it never again be said that ingratitude is the sin of republics.

9th, *Agriculture:* With virtue and science as her handmaids, the best guarantee of national prosperity.

10th, *North-Carolina:* A skilful culture of the mind and of the soil, alone can make us a great people.

11th, *Lafayette:* May his life and his principles, prove a political heaven to the nations of Europe.

12th, *The 19th Congress:* "All talk and no cider."

13th, *The Fair Sex:*

> "The world was sad, the garden was a wild,
> And man the hermit sigh'd, till woman smil'd."

After the regular Toasts, the following Volunteers were given:

By the President—A rule without an exception: May the time speedily arrive, when every [illegible] will be able to read, write and cipher.

By the Vice President—Our worthy representative and guest, the Hon. John H. Bryan.

[When this toast was given Mr. BRYAN arose, and in the language of eloquent feeling, expressed his consideration of the respect thus awarded him.]

By John Gatlin, Esq.—The President of the United States: The not elected by the people, he does honour to the republic.

By Gen. Croom—Thomas Jefferson.

By G. S. Attmore, Esq.—The late Governor Caswell: One of the purest spirits of '76.

By W. B. Croom, Esq.—The Congress of [illegible]:

> "The prophets of young freedom, summoned to
> From climes of Washington and Bolivar."

May they redeem all the honourable and magnificent purposes of their assemble.

By J. W. Bryan, Esq.—The citizens of Lenoir: Honest, virtuous and patriotic: May the grass which they quaff in this moment of glee,

> Be a pledge to the brave, independent and free.

By W. L. B. Pearce, Esq.—The Orator of the day: May the strength of his lungs ever be sufficient to drain the wisdom of his head.

The greatest harmony and cordiality prevailed throughout the day. In the evening a handsome ball was given by Mrs PEARCE, which was numerously attended, and gave unlimited satisfaction to all who were present.

ELIZABETH-CITY, July 8.

Fiftieth Anniversary.—This day was celebrated in Chowan County in a style becoming its patriotic citizens. At 11 o'clock a large number having assembled at the Court-House the Declaration of Independence was read by Dr. Toy, after which WILLIAM B. SHEPARD, Esq rose and delivered in a graceful and animated style an Oration. The ceremonies being over, the citizens sat down to a dinner prepared for the occasion under two [illegible] booths, [illegible] W. Lougbead, Esq. After the cloth was removed and the toasts commenced, an unfortunate circumstance occurred to mar the festivities of the day: a man by the name of Bernard, while charging a gun which had been several times fired, and which he neglected to sponge out, it went off and [illegible] him 10 or 12 feet, broke one of his arms and burnt him so severely that it is thought he will not recover.—*Star.*

From the National Journal.

We have received a letter from an old revolutionary officer, who states himself to be 68 years of age, that he has not been able to walk for twenty years, nor to sit on horseback for ten years; that he is very poor and destitute, having no home to assist him, nor home, but is entirely dependent on the charity of friends. He states that he commenced his military life in the revolution, in the year 1775, as a private, and at the close of the war retired from the service as a lieutenant in the Virginia line, in the continental establishment. The object of his letter is to obtain some authentic information on the subject of the bill to provide for the relief of the survivors of the army of the revolution. The old man seems to have been fed by those around him with the hope of relief under the provision of this bill to sooth the winter of his age, and make the hand of affliction press less heavily on his debilitated frame; and his inquiry of us is to ascertain whether the bill was passed or lost. We regret that the only reply which it is in our power to give him will blight his hopes, and add to his sorrows. The failure of the bill has stricken down the staff, on which he relied to support him to the grave. Like many others who fought and bled in the same fields, and for the same great cause, he is left to support himself on the consolations which his own memory and his own feelings may supply. He must exist on the consciousnes, that he has done his duty to his country; although he cannot but feel acutely the ungraceful, ungracious return which he receives from that country. He will, in a few days, more, be toasted at the festive board, on the anniversary of that event to which he contributed by his own valor and his blood, while he himself must eat the crust which a cold charity reluctantly allows him, comfortless and alone. He will be, canonised in the song of triumph, while pain and poverty are feeding on his frame, and no music reaches his closing ear, but sighs and groans which the two-fold acuteness of his infirmities and his recollections forces from his own bosom. It has been beautifully said by the bard—

> How blest the lot of those
> Who for their country die—
> Sink on her bosom to repose,
> And triumph where they lie.

There is truth in this; but there is little of blessedness in the lot of those to whom destiny has refused the repose of death, but, in its stead, has given it them to linger through half a century of pain, and want, pitied, perhaps, yet unrelieved, dragged their wounded limbs over the soil which they have rescued from foreign grasp, to find some solitary spot where they may be allowed a little earth [illegible] Surely public gratitude is but a fiction—or, at most, a name.

From the National Intelligencer.

Murder of Mr. Martin.—As our city possessed no man more respectable or useful in his sphere of life than Tobias Martin, whose death was announced in our last, and whose mortal remains were yesterdy attended to the grave by a great concourse of indignant and sorrowing townsmen, and with military and masonic honours, some of the particulars of the tragical fate will not be unacceptable to our readers.

At the distance of something more than a mile North of the General Post-office building, and without the bounds of the city, resided a person by the name of Devaughn, who cultivated a field or two there. Into these fields last Sunday, strayed several boys from the city in search of blackberries, among whom was a son of Mr. Martin. They were pursued by Devaughn, roughly handled, and the hat and basket taken from a young Martin, with the declaration that they should be detained until some money was paid for their redemption. Mr Martin sent a note to the man on Monday, asking him to let the hat and basket be returned; to which no notice was taken, he not being at home at the time. On Wednesday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Martin walked out cheerfully together for exercise, and thought they would walk as far as Devaughn's place, and persuade him to give up the property he had seized. With this view they went to the house, within the enclosure, and very civily requested he would return these articles. They were rudely answered with brutal language, and on Mr. M's expostulating with the man, his sharp and furious dog [illegible] set upon the unoffending couple. Mr. and Mrs. M. were endeavouring by flight to escape from them, when one of the dogs having seized Mr. M's coat, he had turned round to defend himself against him and at that moment received a load of slugs in his breast from a musket deliberately aimed and fired at him by Devaughn. He turned to his wife who had by this time reached the fence exclaiming, "I am a dead man!" and taking her hand, bidding her affectionately "Farewell!" he soon breathed his last. The poor afflicted widow made the best of her way home, herself the bearer of the distressing intelligence. It was not till nearly two o'clock the news was known, when several neighbours went out to the place. The murderer, who knew his murdered victim by buckshot, fled to the woods, and could not be pursued for that night. Mr Martin was found lying on his face, with his left arm under his body, and his right arm extended, grasping a bunch of grass which he had pulled in the agonies of death. He was dressed in his shirt and pantaloons, and had on his shoes and stockings. He was found to have received the whole charge of slugs in his breast, and his body was literally perforated with them. His pockets were turned inside out, and his watch, which was found in the pocket of his pantaloons, was stopped at 2 o'clock, the time of his death, or a few minutes past, his mechanical ingenuity and skill had been employed in the construction of a power press, for the use of the proprietors of this paper, which was so far advanced and previously tested by a small model as to leave no doubt of its entire success and efficiency had he lived to complete it. The press is an original invention, neither he nor any one concerned in it having ever seen one on that principle, the pressure being produced, as it is in the English presses, by a revolving cylinder.

Devaughn, the murderer, is represented to us to be a man advanced in years, perhaps sixty, of a stout rough frame, 5 feet 8 or 10 inches high, his hair and whiskers grey, and his face remarkable for the uncommon projection of his under lip. It is hoped that this description will be sufficient to lead to his apprehension.

The verdict of the Coroner's Inquest after examining, besides other witnesses the wife and little daughter of Devaughn was wilful murder by said Devaughn.