

TO THE CITIZENS  
OF THE  
Thirteenth Congressional District of North Carolina.

FELLOW-CITIZENS:—In the circular letter which I addressed to you during the last Session of Congress, I stated that it was impossible for any one to know with certainty, what would be the issue of the Presidential election, then pending, between Gen. Harrison and Mr. Van Buren. But, judging from the evidence before us at that time, and from an authority on which I thought reliance could be placed, I believed it probable that Gen. Harrison would get one hundred of the Electoral votes more than were required to elect him.

Extravagant as this estimate may then have appeared to some persons, it has nevertheless been well sustained by the result; for, out of two hundred and ninety-four votes, the whole number in the United States, General Harrison has received two hundred and thirty-four, and Mr. Van Buren only sixty. The following States voted for Harrison, to wit: Maine 10, Vermont 7, Massachusetts 14, Rhode Island 4, Connecticut 8, New York 42, New Jersey 8, Pennsylvania 30, Delaware 3, Maryland 10, North Carolina 15, Georgia 11, Mississippi 4, Louisiana 5, Tennessee 15, Kentucky 15, Ohio 21, Indiana 9, and Michigan 3; in all 234, as above stated.

On the other hand, Mr. Van Buren received the votes of the following States, to wit: New Hampshire 7, Virginia 23, South Carolina 11, Alabama 7, Illinois 5, Missouri 4, and Arkansas 3; making an aggregate of only 60.

It will be observed that General Harrison's majority over Mr. Van Buren is one hundred and seventy-four, and his entire vote nearly three to one; that of the twenty-six States which compose our Union, General Harrison has received the vote of nineteen, and Mr. Van Buren the vote of only seven, which is likewise nearly three to one.

The popular vote was scarcely less decisive in favor of General Harrison, for he obtained a majority over Mr. Van Buren of nearly one hundred and fifty thousand. The great State of New York, in which Mr. Van Buren resides, voted against him, and gave a majority for Harrison of more than thirteen thousand; while the State of Ohio, in which Gen. Harrison resides, voted for him in opposition to Mr. Van Buren by a majority of more than twenty-three thousand. It has never before occurred, I believe, in the history of our country, that a candidate for the Presidency was rejected by the people of his own State, as Mr. Van Buren has been by New York. It proves on one hand the great merit of General Harrison in the estimation of the people, and on the other the striking demerit of Mr. Van Buren. It also illustrates, in the most conspicuous and forcible manner, the intelligence, virtue, and firmness of the people of New York. None of the blandishments usually applied in such cases, no appeals to State pride, could induce them to forget their duty to the whole country, or to vote for the candidate whom they did not believe best qualified to serve them. Such instances of exclusive devotion to the public good rarely occur, and they must, through all time to come, eminently redound to the character of that State.

The votes for President and Vice President were counted on Wednesday last, the 10th instant, in presence of both Houses of Congress, and the result officially ascertained to be as above stated. Thus has ended, fellow-citizens, this great and agitating contest, this struggle between the people on one hand, and Executive power on the other.—In no country, or age of the world, has any spectacle been seen like that exhibited in the United States during the last year. Conventions and other meetings of the People, numbering from five to seventy-five thousand, were held in every State, and almost in every neighborhood. At these meetings, the measures pursued by Mr. Van Buren were fully and freely discussed, and the judgment against him must, therefore, be considered as the most decisive, the most mature and deliberate ever pronounced by the people of the United States in any similar case.

Another remarkable characteristic of these meetings is, that in no instance was there any thing like riot or disorder proceeding from the Whig party, but a due observance of the law was manifested at all times. If any disturbances did exist, they were justly and distinctly traceable, so far as I am informed, to the conduct of the Van Buren party; who on some occasions seemed anxious to restrain the people from the exercise of their right to assemble peaceably together, and to discuss matters of public concernment. But to the lasting honor and renown of our free institutions, the People, notwithstanding these impediments, have obtained a glorious triumph, and in the most signal manner have rebuked Mr. Van Buren as the author of the mischief, misrule and oppression with which we have been laboring for years past. Never was any candidate for the Presidency so badly beaten, nor did any one deserve to be so beaten. For, in whatever direction we may turn our eyes, into whatever branch of the public service we may look, all seems to have been badly managed, if not grossly abused, and to require the most searching scrutiny, the most thorough reform.

It has been often stated to you, fellow-citizens, that the Van Buren party, before they came into power, condemned the expenditure of twelve or thirteen millions a year under a preceding administration, as great and intolerable extravagance. But, after they came into power, instead of reducing the expense to less than twelve or thirteen millions, they have increased it to about three times that amount. The whole expense of the three first years of Mr. Van Buren's administration, as amounted to the enormous sum of one hundred and eleven millions four hundred and six thousand nine hundred and sixty dollars. The average expense per year, has been about thirty-seven millions one hundred and thirty-five thousand six hundred and fifty-four dollars; the average per month, has been three millions ninety-four thousand six hundred and thirty-seven dollars; the average per week, has been seven hundred and fourteen thousand one hundred and forty-seven dollars; the average per day, has been one hundred and two thousand and twenty-

one dollar; the average per hour, has been four thousand two hundred and fifty dollars. This cannot be thought a specimen of either a good or economical administration, when it is known to have extended more than seventy dollars for every minute of time that elapsed during the first three years of its existence. What the expenditure will be during the fourth and last year, nobody I apprehend, can tell with precision. Many debts and outstanding claims against the Government are known to exist, but the amount of them cannot be ascertained until they shall be brought in for settlement. The Secretary of the Treasury himself must be at fault on this subject, because he has furnished to Congress no data on which to predicate any estimate of the probable amount of outstanding debts against the Government. From his silence in this respect, it may be inferred the amount was likely to be so great that policy suggested the propriety of concealing it.

But whatever may be the amount of expenditure for the last year of Mr. Van Buren's administration, every one must admit that for the three first years it was most enormous, and exceeded all the bounds of reason or propriety. Neither Mr. Van Buren, nor any one of his party, has yet satisfactorily explained why it is, that more than one hundred and eleven millions of dollars have been expended during the first three years of his administration. Surely, then, they could not expect that the people would regard with approbation, or even with indifference, this flagrant discrepancy between their precepts and their example—between what they preached before they came into power, and what they practised afterwards. So long as the people retain their capacity for self-government, and are attentive to their own interests, they will demand consistency in the conduct of their public servants, and will not fail to distrust those who make fair promises, but afterwards violate them. No doubt this inconsistency of the Van Buren party, this want of good faith in redeeming their pledges, was one main cause of their overthrow in the late elections; and their fate will be a useful and salutary warning to all others who may hereafter be employed in administering the Government. The various artifices of double-dealing, of saying one thing and doing another, will henceforth, I trust, be banished from the land, and never again be relied on, by any party, as a means of support; but honesty of purpose in all things, and a plain, open, and direct course in the execution of that purpose, will be required of every one who may aspire to the affections and confidence of the people. When this shall be known as the law of public opinion, which the people themselves will enforce, and from which they will allow no departure, then will our republican Government shine forth to the world in all its brilliancy and beauty; then will the people of other countries, seeing and admiring its varied excellencies, become the willing and ready converts to its theory.—That happy day I trust has already dawned upon the United States, in the election of General Harrison; and promises, if rightly improved, a noontide of the brightest effulgence.

On the subject of expenditures much misapprehension has existed. The Van Buren party, always dexterous in making excuses to exonerate themselves, have attempted to throw the responsibility upon the Whigs.—But, fellow-citizens, you know very well that the Whigs have been in the minority, and cannot, therefore, in any view of the case, be held accountable for the measures of extravagance of which we have complained. Can the stronger party govern the weaker, or the weaker the stronger? Why certainly the stronger must govern the weaker; and the Van Buren party having been the stronger, it follows necessarily that they are responsible. Take for example the following case.—In the city of New York, there were employed during a former administration, for the purpose of collecting the revenue, about one hundred and fifty officers of every description, who received for their compensation an aggregate sum of about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Both the number of officers and the amount of compensation were condemned by the Van Buren party as being entirely too great. But since they came into power they have increased the number of officers to about five hundred, and the aggregate compensation to about 500,000 dollars. Now, I ask, in all soberness and truth, who is answerable for this doubling, nay tripling, the number of officers and the amount of their compensation? Most unquestionably the Van Buren party, because they have had complete and absolute control over the whole matter. For all these officers and agents have been appointed, and permitted to remain in service, either by the President himself, the Secretary of the Treasury, or the Collector of the port of New York, and consequently they must be held responsible for every cent of the increased expenditure. This case is presented to you as a sample of the rest, to show in what manner the expenditures have been increased three-fold, and how it is that the Van Buren party are to blame for it. Hereafter, if there should be a majority in Congress to sustain General Harrison, and he should permit this enormous expense to continue, and especially if he should increase it, I hope no friend of his ever will contend that he and his party should not be held accountable. On the contrary, I am well assured that it will be his wish, and that of his friends generally, to reduce the expense, and administer the Government with rigid economy in every branch of the public service.

In disbursing or paying out the revenue, as well as in collecting it, there has been much conduct which requires investigation. It has been said, on authority entitled to credit, that "the cost of building the Ohio ship of the line, was two hundred and ninety-four thousand and forty-two dollars; and the cost of repairing her, in 1829, was six hundred and twenty-one thousand three hundred and fifty-five dollars—nearly three times as much as the cost of building." Several other cases of the kind might be mentioned, but this one in regard to the Ohio ship of the line will show that there has been great negligence and abuse, if not fraud and peculation, in the disbursement of the public mo-

ney. What has been said of the Treasury and Navy Departments, is equally true, I believe, of the other departments. The War Department, in particular, it is thought, abounds in cases of abuse and violations of law, which would astonish the nation, if thoroughly examined and exposed. Hence the enormous expense of carrying on the war with the Seminole Indians, which we know has already cost us more than twenty millions of dollars. How much greater the amount will be, when all outstanding claims shall have been settled, nobody can tell.—The opinion has been ventured by some that the whole cost of the war will be equal to forty millions of dollars.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in his annual report on the 10th of December last, informed Congress that the revenue for this year would be sufficient to meet all the expenditures, and leave a surplus in the Treasury on the first of January next. But soon after this communication was received, a bill was introduced by the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, authorizing another issue of Treasury notes, amounting to five millions of dollars. It must be obvious that if the revenue was sufficient, there could be no necessity for Treasury notes, and consequently that the measure proposed was not in strict accordance with the information previously given by the Department. But inconsistent and contradictory as it was, Congress was constrained to pass the bill, because the public service should not be allowed to suffer. In reflecting on the subject, it did not appear that any other measure could be adopted so as to afford, in due time, the necessary relief. A duty on wines and silks imported from abroad into the United States, I am ready to vote for at any moment, and shall do so if that proposition can be acted on before the end of the Session; but the revenue to be derived from that source could not be rendered available soon enough to meet the pressing wants of the Treasury. Another alternative was to borrow money; but this again could not be done in such time, and upon such terms, as to render it preferable to an issue of Treasury notes. In regard to a tax, of which some politicians spoke favorably at a former Session, I take this occasion to say, that I am totally opposed to it. This species of tax always presses upon the people with more grievous weight than any other kind of public burden whatsoever. If land be taxed, the farmers and planters are compelled to pay the amount of the levy, although their crops may have failed, and they may be destitute of the means to discharge their obligations. They have no option or choice in the matter, but pay their tax at all hazards. It is not so, however, with a duty on imported goods, and especially with a duty on wines and silks, which are articles of luxury, and may be dispensed with. If any one chooses to buy them, he does it voluntarily, at such time and in such quantities as will suit his own convenience, of which he is the sole judge. The payment is also generally made so as to suit the interest of both parties—that is, of the buyer and seller—and hence it is that a duty on imported goods, or in other words, a tax on consumptions, causes so little oppression and is so easily paid. No system or scheme of direct tax should therefore be resorted to in a free country, so long as an adequate supply of revenue can be raised by a duty on imported goods. According to the latter, the payment is always voluntary; but, according to the former, it is compulsory; and if there were no other difference, this alone would render the latter infinitely preferable.

A hue and cry has been raised against a tariff, which is held up as a great bugbear to frighten the people of the Southern States. I am persuaded, however, you will not concur in this; for what, let me ask, is a tariff? It is simply a regulation of commerce, a mere rate of duties, which the law declares shall be imposed on all foreign goods brought into the United States. Whether the duty be higher or lower—whether it be five, ten, or twenty per cent.—amounts to nothing in that aspect of the case; for such a regulation of commerce has always existed. What is called a protective tariff is the only measure to which there can be any objection, and against this I have uniformly voted. But a tax or duty on wines and silks, for the purpose of revenue, cannot be regarded by any one in his sober senses as a "protective tariff." The only wonder is, that these articles should have been exempted from duty at any time. But as the Treasury is empty, and as it must be supplied from some quarter, I shall vote for a duty on wines and silks whenever the question is made, rather than resort to any other mode of raising revenue, such as a tax on lands, or an excise of any description.

In connexion with the subject of revenue, it is proper to mention that the disordered state of our circulating medium still continues, and causes great embarrassments in all the operations of trade and commerce. The money of one State will not answer the purpose of money in another State, and it must now be evident that the experiments made on the subject of the currency by Mr. Van Buren, and his predecessor, have resulted in disaster and ruin to the whole nation. At the time these experiments commenced, no people on earth were ever so signally blessed as we were with a circulating medium, of universal credit, at home and abroad.—But they thought proper to break in upon this condition of things; and, while waging the war against the Bank of the United States, they boasted, they proclaimed aloud, that the State Banks would answer every purpose, and afford even greater facilities, to exchange than the Bank of the United States. In a short time, however, the pet or State Bank system which they had introduced blew up, and scattered desolation far and wide through the land. Then we were told that the Sub-Treasury system, (which they had previously denounced,) would remedy all the evils to which their wild or wicked experiments had given rise. But what do we now see? The Sub-Treasury has been in practical operation for about five years, and our monetary concerns, instead of being amended, have been growing worse and worse every day. After so much sad experience, it was to be hoped the Van Bu-

ren party would abandon their ruinous projects, and would return, at last, to the plan of a Bank of the United States—first adopted by Washington in 1791, and then re-adopted by Madison in 1816. The authority of two such men as Washington and Madison ought to overcome all objections to any measure which they had approved and sanctioned, and especially when that measure was found, by experience, to conduce universally to the prosperity and happiness of the people. But the Van Buren party have wanted the wisdom or magnanimity to do this, and, at the present Session, have obstinately refused to repeal that odious and destructive Sub-Treasury system which has caused so much evil in the land. In short, fellow-citizens, it is my deliberate opinion that the money or circulating medium of the country never can be, and never will be, restored to a sound and healthy condition, until we establish a new Bank of the United States. You know I have entertained this opinion from the first moment I entered into public life, as a member of the Assembly, from the county of Surry, and have expressed it to you times without number. I have said, over and over again, in your presence, that all the schemes proposed by the Van Buren party, for managing our finances, would be temporary and delusive; that they would ultimately fail; and we should be driven, at last, to establish another Bank of the United States. With a bank of that kind, we have always been prosperous; but without it, we have progressed rapidly to ruin. Why, then, I would ask, must we still suffer more? Why must we bear a greater load of injury and oppression before we can come to our senses, and be prepared to establish a Bank of the United States? The universal desolation which has been spreading over the country since 1837, ought to be sufficient to teach us that such an institution is necessary and proper; and one of the greatest benefits I anticipated from the defeat of Mr. Van Buren, and the election of General Harrison, was the establishment of a National Bank, and the restoration of the currency, by that means, to a condition of sound and uniform value. General Harrison will not come into office till the 4th of next month, (March,) and at that time, also, the present Congress will expire. All our hopes of relief during Mr. Van Buren's term of service are therefore vain and illusory, and we must look alone to General Harrison for those substantial benefits which, I doubt not, his administration will abundantly afford to the whole country.

Another momentous question, to be decided during General Harrison's administration, relates to a proper disposition of the public lands. The question of the currency is not more important than this one in regard to the lands; for the new States are urging claims which are wholly repugnant to the rights and interests of the old States. Bills for granting pre-emptions, and graduating the price of lands, have again been submitted to Congress, but have not as yet been finally acted on. It is to be hoped they will not pass at this Session, but will be postponed till the next, when more good faith and a greater sense of justice will prevail. The Van Buren party have generally favored the exclusive pretensions of the new States, while the Whig party have advocated a contrary doctrine, and maintained that the old States have as much right as the new States to this immense fund of national wealth.—The whole quantity of public lands, including that to which the Indian title has not been extinguished, is about one thousand millions of acres, which, at the minimum price, would be worth one thousand two hundred and fifty millions of dollars. If North Carolina, for the present time, and the time to come, could have her share of this immense fund of national wealth, what incalculable benefits and advantages would be derived from it! The railroad could be extended from Raleigh, by Salem or Salisbury, to the western extremity of the State. Then another road, from Raleigh to Fayetteville, and so on, till every section of the State was benefited by these improvements. At the same time, schools could be established in every neighborhood; and after all this had been done, we should have money in the Treasury to support the State Government of North Carolina, without any tax upon the people. If we therefore want railroads; if we wish for schools; if we desire our own State Government to be supported without taxing the people, let us never consent to give up our share of the public lands. It is very surprising to see some members from the old States co-operating with the new States, and advocating measures which tend to impair the value of the public domain.

The United States are at peace with all the civilized world. But the controversy with England in relation to our North-Eastern boundary is of a very delicate nature, and is regarded by some as likely to produce, in the end, a rupture between the two countries. Such a result is much to be deprecated, and should be avoided by every means in our power consistent with the honor of the nation. At any time war is a most dreadful scourge, and ought never to be undertaken except in vindication of our rights. A good cause inspires the hearts and strengthens the arms of any people; and thus accoutred, so to speak, they will ever be invincible. But even for just cause a war should not be commenced till every expedient for the preservation of peace has been tried; and I have entire confidence that General Harrison, to whom, under the Constitution, the management of our foreign affairs is to be entrusted, will conduct all the negotiations upon that principle. The United States and England have greater inducements to remain at peace than any other two countries on the face of the globe. Our trade is vastly important to them, and their trade is vastly important to us; and hence no war could arise between us if both are equally disposed to do justice. It is perfectly clear that the United States are disposed to do them justice, for we claim only to the boundary line agreed upon at the close of the revolutionary war. To that boundary we have a right to go, when it shall be ascertained by examination and survey. But in relation to other points in

controversy, to wit: the burning of the Steamboat Caroline, and the imprisonment of McLeod in the State of New York, I am not certain that the conduct of our people on the frontier has been exactly that which the duties of neutrality required of them.—It is to be hoped, however, that these matters may be explained hereafter to the mutual satisfaction of both parties, and that a war between two great nations will not be allowed to take place in consequence of irregularities attributable to the citizens or subjects on either side.

It will not have escaped your attention, fellow-citizens, that the next Congress will be as important as any that has ever been assembled in the United States. All the great questions which have agitated the country for years past must then be decided. The question of the public lands, in my judgment, claims precedence over every other, and if it is not disposed of during the next Congress, the old States may surrender all hope of ever having justice done to them. After the next Congress, the new States will elect an increased number of members, according to the census of 1840, and if we do not obtain our rights before the increase of representation, we cannot expect it subsequently to that event. Next in importance to the question concerning the public lands is the question of establishing a Bank of the United States, and a reformation of the currency; then the question of revising the tariff, and providing a sufficient revenue to meet the wants of the Treasury; of lessening the expenditures of Government, and introducing a wise and wholesome economy; of examining thoroughly into the conduct of all public officers, and punishing frauds and defalcations; the question of preserving peace with foreign nations, by doing justice to them, and requiring them to do us justice—these, and many more which might be mentioned, will be important subjects of deliberation before the next Congress.

It is evident, then, that high and responsible duties will devolve upon the next Congress, which, if rightly discharged, must conduce to the lasting prosperity and happiness of the country. But if these duties are not well and faithfully performed, disaster and ruin must ensue, in a far greater degree than has ever before been experienced.—You turned out Mr. Van Buren, and elected General Harrison, for the purpose of redressing the wrongs and remedying the evils which for a long time have afflicted the country. But to enable General Harrison to accomplish any good whatever, he must be supported by a majority of both Houses of Congress. If either House is opposed to him, every measure which he recommends may be defeated. No good law can be passed, nor any bad law repealed, unless he is sustained by a majority of both Houses.—Look, for example, at the effort made during this session to repeal the Sub-Treasury, referred to in a preceding part of my letter.—The people had condemned Mr. Van Buren, and, of course, had condemned his measures; but yet the Sub-Treasury could not be repealed, because his friends make the majority in the present Congress. Suppose they make a majority in the next Congress, will they not pursue the same course, and defeat every measure proposed by General Harrison? Certainly they will; and it behooves the people, who are friends and supporters of General Harrison, to be cautious in selecting Representatives to the next Congress. On the choice they may make will depend all the success—the entire amount of good to result from General Harrison's administration. It would, indeed, be a most extraordinary spectacle to elect General Harrison in order to accomplish certain ends of reformation in the Government, and then to send on members of either House to defeat those very ends. I am persuaded the people will not agree that any thing of this kind shall take place.

On the 4th of March, the time for which I was elected your representative, will expire, and I take this occasion, fellow-citizens, to return you my most sincere and unfeigned thanks for the many acts of kindness and favor received at your hands. No individual in the United States has more reason than I have to be grateful to his constituents. I have endeavored to discharge my duty faithfully in all things; but owing to my being in the minority for so many years, I have not been able to render you as efficient service as I could wish, or as I would have done if I had been in the majority.

In obedience to the solicitation of my friends, I shall again be a candidate for your suffrages at the next election. Should I be honored with your confidence, I shall endeavor to fulfil all the pledges I have given you. I have promised you that much good would result from the election of General Harrison, and if I were now to decline, it might be said that I had done so because I knew that more had been promised, than could be performed. To convince you that I was sincere in what was promised, and that I do not shrink from the responsibility of fulfilling every promise, to the word and to the letter, I am again a candidate.—Another reason, inducing me to be a candidate for re-election, is, that it will probably be the last time I shall ever have the honor of tendering my services to the Thirteenth Congressional District of North Carolina.—The election in 1843, which comes after the ensuing one in August next, will be under the new census of 1840, and according to an arrangement of the districts, perhaps totally different from the present arrangement. From what I can learn, it is probable that the ratio of representation will be raised to fifty or sixty thousand, and in that case my public or legislative connexion with the old district, composed of the counties of Wilkes, Surry, Iredell, and Ashe, may be forever dissolved, and such other arrangement introduced as the General Assembly may adopt. Having been so long associated in mutual friendship and good will with the citizens of the present district, I am anxious, if I may be allowed to say so, to retain their confidence to the last. Should I succeed in this, it would be a consolation to me in all my subsequent journey through life.

A further reason inducing anxiety on my part to be in the next Congress is, that I

propose to be acquainted with the routine of business, and to know how abuses and frauds, if they exist, are to be ferreted out, exposed and punished, when there is a majority in the House to make all needful inquiry. But you, fellow-citizens, have the power and the right to determine whether my past course in public life has been such as to deserve a renewal of your confidence, and to your decision I shall at all times cheerfully submit. In the hope that your decision, whatever it may be, will be conducive to the prosperity and happiness of our common country, I subscribe myself,

Your friend and fellow-citizen,  
LEWIS WILLIAMS.  
Washington, February 13th, 1841.

RESOLUTIONS of a Public nature, passed by the Legislature of North Carolina, at its Session of 1840-41.

In relation to the Public Domain.  
Whereas, we believe that each of the United States, being a party to the National compact, possesses an interest in the Public Domain, proportioned to the Federal population of each; or, in the terms of the compact, according to the usual respective proportions of the general charge and expenditure; and we see with regret, that by the introduction of Bills, called "Pre-emption Bills, Graduation Bills," and other measures, into the Congress of the United States, manifest injustice is intended to the older members of the Confederacy.

Be it therefore Resolved, That this General Assembly do condemn in the most decided manner, any Act by the Congress of the United States, whatever title it may bear, which contemplates a disposition of the proceeds of the sales of the Public Lands, otherwise than as set forth in the deeds of Cession from the several States.

Resolved further, That our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States, be requested to use their best exertions to procure the passage of a bill directing the division of the proceeds of the sales of the Public Domain among the States in an equitable ratio, to be used by the States for Internal Improvement, Education, or any other purpose, as may be deemed expedient by the several States receiving said distribution.

Resolved, That the Governor of this State be requested to forward a copy of these Resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that they lay them before their respective bodies.

ROB. E. GILLIAM, S. H. C.  
A. JOYNER, S. S.  
[Ratified, the 11th day of January, 1841.]

Respecting the re-opening of Roanoke Inlet.

Whereas, the re-opening of Roanoke Inlet upon the coast of North Carolina, at or near Nag's Head, so as to afford a safe and convenient retreat for the commerce of the Country as well from the pursuit of foreign enemies in time of War, as from storms and tempests is by this General Assembly deemed a Work of great importance to the commercial prosperity of the People of these United States, because of the great destructions of Vessels at the place, with the consequent loss of life and of individual property, and because of the high rates of insurance imposed upon Vessels and their Cargoes for the want of sufficient Inlet through which to seek a harbor there; And whereas to remove all doubts of the practicability and permanency of such a work (the great and general utility of which was little questioned) a Resolution was passed at our last General Assembly directing a Survey of the adjacent waters of Albemarle Croatan and Roanoke Sounds, to be made by some practical Engineer of high distinction, with the view of having the Inlet re-opened at that place; and whereas, such Survey has been made as directed, and from the report thereof, we are satisfied that the re-opening of Roanoke Inlet can and ought to be effected; and, whereas we believe that the General Government, from its supervisory powers over the Commerce of the Country, has authority under the Constitution of the United States to undertake and accomplish this work; therefore

Be it Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress, be, and they are hereby enjoined and requested to use their utmost exertions in procuring from the General Government, an appropriation to effect the re-opening of Roanoke Inlet.

Be it further Resolved, That the Report of the Survey of said Work, directed to be made by the General Assembly of this State, be herewith printed, and that His Excellency, the Governor of this State, be requested to transmit a copy of these Resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

[Ratified, the 11th day of January, 1841.]

For repairing the Governor's Residence, and for Furniture.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, That the sum of Three Thousand Dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to be applied under the direction of the Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, and Comptroller, for the repairs of the Governor's House, Out-houses and enclosure.

Resolved further, That the Public Treasurer pay to the Private Secretary of the Governor, the sum of one thousand dollars, to be applied under the direction of His Excellency, in the purchase of any Furniture necessary for the Governor's House.

[Ratified, the 11th day of January, 1841.]

For distributing the Revised Statutes.

Resolved, That His Excellency, the Governor, cause to be distributed one copy of the first volume of the Revised Statutes, to the Justices of the Peace in the several Counties in this State, who have been appointed, qualified and now acting, since the said Statutes were distributed, including those who may be appointed at the present Session of the General Assembly.

[Ratified, the 11th day of January, 1841.]

Accepting from the Hon. Edward Stanley the donation of certain Books therein mentioned.

Resolved, That the following Books, to-wit: The Documentary History of the Revolution; the Diplomatic Correspondence; the Land Laws; American State Papers; Register of Debates; Contested Elections; Commercial Regulations and Elliott's Debates; a donation to the Legislature from the Hon. Edward Stanley, one of the Representatives of the State of North Carolina, in Congress, be received; and that His Excellency, the Governor of this State, transmit to the Hon. Edward Stanley, the thanks of this Legislature for the donation.

[Ratified, the 11th day of January, 1841.]

Concerning the Statue of Washington.

Whereas, in a communication from the Hon. William Gaston, information has been received that Mr. John Frazer of New-York a native artist, and a man of the most re-