

# THE COURIER

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THOMAS J. ECCLES.

LINCOLN, N. C., MARCH, 1847.

## RAIL ROAD

### Meeting in Lincoln County, N. C.

Pursuant to public notice, an extremely large and respectable meeting of the citizens of this county, was held at the court house in Lincoln, on Wednesday, the 3d inst. when BARTLETT SHIPP, Esqr. was called to the chair, and ANDREW MOTZ and THOMAS J. ECCLES appointed Secretaries. The objects of the meeting were explained by the chair, when, on motion, James W. Osborne, Esq. of Charlotte, rose, and proceeded to give his opinions, advocating the construction of a Rail Road from Charlotte to connect with that of Camden or Columbia, S. C. and as to the objects, interests and benefits of the whole West in its success, even should Charlotte be the terminus; the manufactures of the West would find a speedy market—the road would be the means of supplying 22 counties with a market, on a capital of \$1,000,000, and give 6 per cent.—that goods would be far cheaper, and produce higher—that Charlotte was the nearest point to the Southern line—that the road had been chartered by the Legislatures of North and South Carolina, the provisions of which charter Mr O went on to explain.

H. C. Jones, Esq. being called on, also advocated the measure in remarks both humorous and reasonable; after which he made way for the introduction of the following resolutions, which were passed after a discussion, pro and con, by Henry Casler and B. Shipp, Esquires.

1. Resolved, That we the people of Lincoln County, regard with deep interest, the Rail Road proposed to be constructed from the town of Charlotte to Columbia or Camden, in South Carolina.

2. Resolved, That in the success of this work, the manufacturing, agricultural and mercantile interests of Western North Carolina are deeply involved, and that it is the interest and duty of the people to contribute what may be in their power to promote its accomplishment.

3. Resolved, That as a Convention of the people of North Carolina is proposed to be held at Charlotte on the 27th April next, that the Chairman of this meeting appoint 20 persons to represent the County of Lincoln in said convention.

4. Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the Lincoln Courier, the Charlotte papers and the papers of Charleston city.

The following appointments were made under the third resolution:

John F. Hoke,	C. C. Henderson,
William Johnston,	Sidney X. Johnston,
Andrew Motz,	Ephraim Brevard,
L. E. Thompson,	Isaac Lowe,
Henry Casler,	W. W. Monday,
Benj. Sumner,	John Coulter,
F. A. Hoke,	Dr C. L. Hunter,
L. D. Childs,	H. W. Guion,
John H. Wheeler,	John F. Phifer,
Dr Wm. McLean,	Michael Quickel,

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

B. SHIPP, Chairman.

ANDREW MOTZ,  
THOS. J. ECCLES, } Secretaries.

### Rail Road Meeting.

At a Meeting of the citizens of Mecklenburg County and others, held at the Court House in Charlotte, on the 23d of February 1847, to deliberate upon the propriety and best manner of constructing a Rail Road from Charlotte, to connect with the Charleston Rail Road in South Carolina, on motion of J. W. Osborne, Andrew Springs, Esq., was called to the chair, and N. B. Taylor appointed Secretary. The object of the meeting having been explained by J. W. Osborne, Esq., at the request of the chair, a report and resolutions prepared by a committee appointed in January last, were offered and read by J. W. Osborne, Esq.

[The report will appear hereafter—the Resolutions are as follows:]

Resolved, That the proposed Rail Road to connect the town of Charlotte with some point on the South Carolina Rail Road, is to be regarded as the only feasible plan by which the Western part of North Carolina can be connected with the sea board.

Resolved, That it is the only scheme by which a convenient Market can be afforded for our Agricultural products, the development of our Manufacturing and mineral resources, be promoted, and a participation be secured to our people in the improvements and advantages of the age in which we live.

Resolved, That to secure the completion of this work, it is important that a Convention of the friends of this work be invited to assemble in this place, on Tuesday, the 27th of April next, to consider the work, its advantages, and the best

mode and manner of securing its completion.

Resolved, That this invitation be extended to the Counties, of Western North Carolina, to the Districts of Lancaster, York, Kershaw, Chester, Fairfield, and Richland, and to the town, of Camden, Columbia and Charleston, to meet us in the proposed Convention, by Delegates appointed for that purpose.

Resolved, That a Committee of Correspondence be appointed by the Chairman of this meeting, consisting of ten persons, whose duty shall be to correspond with the citizens of Western North Carolina, and the Districts of South Carolina interested in the work, obtain and collect information, produce harmony of purpose and concert of action among the friends of the work.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the Charlotte, Lincoln, Rutherford, Salisbury, and Asheville papers in this State, and in the Camden, Yorkville, Columbia, and Charleston papers in South Carolina.

The Report and Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

H. C. Jones, of Salisbury, being called on, entertained the meeting for a short time in an able address in favor of the proposition. On motion of W. P. Caldwell, it was unanimously recommended that 1,000 copies of the report be printed in Pamphlet form for distribution. On motion of Wm. Johnson, the chairman was authorized and requested to appoint one hundred Delegates to represent Mecklenburg in the April Convention here. Dr C. J. Fox, being called on, submitted a large amount of statistical information in relation to the Agricultural products of Western Carolina. On motion of J. W. Hampton, the meeting adjourned.

In obedience to the 5th Resolution, the chair appointed the following Committee of Correspondence:

J. W. Osborne,	J. W. Hampton,
Dr C. J. Fox,	Leroy Springs,
J. B. Kerr,	W. W. Elms,
Jos. H. Wilson,	C. T. Alexander, Jr.,
Benj. Morrow,	H. B. Williams,

ANDREW SPRINGS, Chairman.  
N. B. TAYLOR, Secretary.

### Meeting in Gaston.

At a Meeting of the Citizens of Gaston County held at Dallas, the County seat, on the instant, on motion of J. H. White, Isaac Holland, Esq., was called to the Chair, and James Quinn, Esq., appointed Secretary. The chairman in a very forcible address explained the object of the Meeting; when the following Committee was appointed to draft resolutions, to wit: Samuel L. Caldwell, Col. Richard Rankin, James M. Hannah, John H. Roberts and Dr. Wm. Sloan, who reported the following:

Resolved, That we regard the war now existing between the United States and the Republic of Mexico, as having been brought out by the actions of that Republic, by a long continued series of indignities offered to the Country, by repeated insults to our national flag, by imprisoning our citizens, by confiscating the property of our people, by the murder of Americans on our own soil, and finally by open declaration of war, and avowed acts of hostility against the United States.

Resolved, That the conduct of the self styled whig party during the session of our last legislature, in relation to the war with Mexico, is another evidence of aid and comfort afforded the enemy, and can be viewed by us only in light of direct opposition to the interests of our country.

Resolved, That the preamble of the resolution to appropriate 10,000 dollars to the Volunteers of this State, contains a gross libel on the President of this Union. That it is Mexican in every feature, and such a preamble more properly belongs to the Journals of the Mexican Congress, as a portion of their proceedings against the United States.

Resolved, That we sanction and approve the vote of our Senator Larkin Stowe, against the resolutions with said Mexican preamble thereto.

Resolved, That the acts of the Legislature, depriving the Volunteer Regiment of this State the power to elect their own officers, is an indignity offered to their intelligence and a gross outrage on the rights of the brave men who have volunteered, in their Country's service.

Resolved, That we view with pride, the course pursued by the Volunteer Company from Mecklenburg, by refusing to serve under Officers who had denounced the war as one of conquest and plunder, denouncing the preamble as requiring them to indorse a lie on their own acts which was worthy of the sons of old Mecklenburg.

After animated addresses from Larkin Stowe, Esq., James I. White, Esq., John F. Hoke Esq., and others, the resolutions were adopted with but two dissenting voices. There were many Whigs on the ground, who expressed themselves in favor of the war, and were willing to contribute any amount to aid in raising men to meet the wants of the administration for the war.

After a very animated and eloquent address from Henry Casler, Esq., the following resolution was introduced and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we the citizens of Gaston County, pledge ourselves to render all the aid in our power to John F. Hoke, to enable him to raise a Company to be rendered to the President for the Mexican war.

The following Committee was appointed to forward the objects of this resolution: Dr. R. H. Bigham, Christian Acre, J. H. Rankin, E. Prady, W. Ferguson, J. R. Falls, Wm. McClure, Dr. Wm. Sloan, Thomas McGill, James Ferguson, David Hoffman, A. B. Cox, Martin Smith, Philip Chandler, Larkin Stowe, S. L. Caldwell, J. H. White, Isaac H. Holland, Caleb Rhodes, John H. Roberts

On motion, it was ordered that these proceedings be published in the Mecklenburg Jeffersonian, Lincoln Courier, and Raleigh Standard.

ISAAC HOLLAND, Chairman.

JAMES QUINN, Secretary.

### From the Seat of War.

CAMP WATSON, near Tampico, }  
Feb. 1st. 1847. }

The sleep of war Albany went to sea yesterday—her captain predicting a norther during the night. I believe he had on board a bearer of despatches from Com. Connor to Gen. Scott, and landed him here. Unless the Alabama comes in with the General to-night, this messenger will leave for the Brazos to-morrow.

Gen. Pillow's division are encamped now near the fort, which commands the river.

We have received no official news here from Monterey or Victoria for several days, nor do I look for any until Gen. Worth arrives, as the road is lined with Lancers, and it would be foolish to send a small force with despatches.

We have news here of the evacuation of Saltillo by the forces recently mentioned there: The news I think came by the way of the Brazos, and must therefore, have reached you ere this. It was brought to Gen. Twiggs tent to-day, but I was unable to learn the cause; although I cannot suppose it to be any other than the desire to be nearer to supplies. With regard to the movements of the enemy in that quarter, I have learned nothing since mine dated at Santa Rosa, but as I long since ventured a promise, I still think we will be the first to commence offensive operations. The enemy may make some slight demonstrations but they will amount to nothing, mere diversions.

Capt. Golding of the Charon, says that some of the Volunteers arrived at Tampico, together with the Mates of the Ondiaka, and that the steamboat Undine had been despatched with Company D. of the U. S. 3d Artillery, to endeavor to get off the ship, but had not returned on the sailing of the Charon.

We learn from a gentleman who came passenger on the schooner Charon, that the troops and all on board were saved, with their baggage, and were at Tampico when the schr. Charon left; but while coming out over the bar, he learned from a pilot boat direct from the wrecked ship, that about 800 Mexicans had taken possession of the ship in advance of a company of the 3d Artillery, which was sent to hold possession of the vessel.

There is much mystery connected with the unfortunate wreck of the Ondiaka.—She left here on the 16th January last with four companies of Louisiana Volunteers. The news of her wreck, 35 miles South of Tampico, was received at Tampico on or before the 1st February. She went ashore on the 26th January. On the 2d February, the crew arrived at Tampico, and were put under arrest by order of Gen. Patterson. On the 4th February the volunteers were expected in Tampico, but they did not arrive; on the 5th and 6th they had not arrived; and the schooner Charon, which left the bar of Tampico on the 6th inst. brings the alarming rumor that the Volunteers had been taken prisoners by a large Mexican force, and that Company D. of the 3d Artillery, which had been sent to escort them to Tampico, had also been captured.

The following hasty note, communicating the above painful intelligence, was received last evening from an attentive cor-

respondent at the Brazos, by schooner Sea, Capt. Flanders:

FEBRUARY 5.—Information has just reached us, that a detachment, composed of 50 Kentucky and 30 Arkansas Cavalry, have been cut off, thirty miles beyond Saltillo. They formed an outpost and were surprised and taken without resistance, not a shot being fired. Three officers were taken with the party—one is Maj. Gorland, of the Arkansas troops the other, Cassius M. Clay; the third I do not know.

A sad affair has occurred in the interior, (as we call it,) the tidings of which have just reached us. Lieut. Ritchie,\* of the 5th Infantry, with an escort of ten dragoons, have fallen victims to the practice of sending such small parties through a country known to be infested by enemies. No apology can be made for this reckless exposure of our gallant regulars. Lieut. R. was the bearer of despatches from Gen. Scott to Gen. Taylor, and he, with his command, were cut off, between Monterey and Victoria, and all killed. It is much to be regretted that Gen. Scott's despatches should thus have fallen into the hands of the enemy, as they contained a full development of the plans and purposes of the campaign. There is little doubt that some changes will be made in the order of things by this mishap—if so, the news which follow herein may not agree with future movements of the troops.

Gen. Worth and his command are still at the mouth of the river, and will, in a few days, embark for places not exactly known. The brigade of artillery (Col. Childs') will go to Tampico, there to undergo some re-organization. The two regiments of Pennsylvania volunteers, the Louisiana and New York Volunteers, are to report themselves at this rendezvous at Lobos Island. The balance of the regiments of volunteers—five, I think are to embark here, and report to Gen. Taylor, taking up their line of march towards Camargo.

The steamer Massachusetts is here awaiting Gen. Scott and staff, and will leave in a day or two for Tampico. She takes a detachment of some 250 men from Childs' brigade of artillery.

Col. Harney has just undergone the ordeal of a court Martial—charge, disobedience of orders—sentence of Court, to be reprimanded. Gen. Scott remitted the sentence, and ordered him to the discharge of the duties for the neglect of which he had been tried.

\*We think this unfortunate affair is exaggerated. Our Tampico correspondent, in his letter of the 25th ult.—published in the Delta of the 13th inst.—says: "I learned last night that Lieut. Ritchie, of the 4th Infantry, was assassinated at Villa Grande by a Mexican.—He was on his way to Victoria (bearing despatches from Gen. Scott to Gen. Taylor), escorted by a Company of Kentucky Cavalry. Gen. Taylor encamped there for the night, and the Lieutenant was sauntering about the town when it happened. The next morning the General had arrested the Alcalde, but I have not learned whether the perpetrator of the outrage had been taken."

### Important Mexican News.

The editors of La Patria have received a letter from their correspondent at Tampico, in which it is stated that a private mail had been received from San Luis Potosi, of the date 23d January, which so far from confirming the hoobugging story about the assassination of Santa Anna, to which some credence was given in this city, represents him as actively engaged in preparations for some movement towards the South. The character, direction and object of this intended movement are wrapped in profound mystery.

It is also stated in the same communication, that a hard fight had taken place at Chihuahua, on 31st December, between the Mexicans and Americans. The loss of the Mexicans is admitted by themselves to have been one hundred killed. No statement is made of the loss of the Americans, nor is it said who commanded the Americans, or what force it was that made the attack.

A battle in which the Mexicans admit that their loss was one hundred killed, must have been a fierce, and, to them, disastrous affair. We are now certain that a conflict has taken place at Chihuahua, and impatiently await the returns, believing that they will add another chapter to our military glory.

The story of the assassination of Santa Anna we always discredited, and we wonder now that there could have been any persons so credulous as to swallow it.

Congress had to adjourn on the 4th inst.

MOUTH OF RIO GRANDE, Jan. 30, 1847.

Gen. Taylor is at Monterey. The South Carolina Volunteers will, I imagine, be sent to him—and will thus lose the tall fighting we shall have at Vera Cruz!—The Pennsylvanians are to go with Gen. Scott. Lieut. Kearney's fine Company of Dragoons is to be his body guard. The 3d Infantry is at Tampico; I am anxious to join it. It is said there are from six to seven thousand men there at this moment. The majority of the Volunteers sent here, are a disgrace to the nation; think of one of them shooting a woman while washing on the bank of the river—merely to test his rifle; another tore forcibly from a Mexican woman the rings from her ears. Their officers take no notice of these outrages, and the offenders escape. If these things are sent to the papers, they are afraid to publish, and so it happens.—The people of the United States think they have a splendid Army here, when they have an undisciplined mob! Were it not for the Regular Army, there would scarcely be a Mexican alive on this frontier."

CAMARGO, Jan. 27, 1847.

The grand army are here, en route to the Brazos. The campaign will open at Vera Cruz, of its success I have no doubt. There is something inspiring in the appearance of our army—the cannon, the banners, the music. Worth is in his glory, he commands the finest division of the army, and will doubtless be next in command to Scott, as General Taylor will not, I presume, go with them. Whether he will remain on the line, or go home on leave, I have not heard; indeed, we have no news from him for a month. We get most of our army intelligence from the Pecosyne. Gen. Wool is left at Saltillo with a strong force of volunteers. I think it possible Santa Anna will attempt to retake Saltillo now that the regulars have left, but it will be of no use.

"Another revolution in Mexico would not surprise me, all of which will unite to our favor. The expedition that is to leave the Brazos is kept profoundly secret; but there can be no doubt, Vera Cruz is the point. The Mexicans know every thing, however, by means of their spies, which are as numerous as the nation. Every Mexican is a spy."

Tampico, Feb. 4, 1847—10 P. M.

We have some very important news from Chihuahua, which is generally credited by the officers of the army, and which, if true, reflects another victory upon our arms. A commercial house in this city, which has a branch in Chihuahua, received a letter from their agent there, under a very late date, stating that an American force from Santa Fe, a part of Gen. Kearney's command, had showed themselves near Chihuahua, and were immediately attacked by a superior Mexican force. A long and sanguinary battle was fought, in which the slaughter on both sides is said to have been very great, surpassing, according to numbers, any that has yet been fought.—Ultimately the Americans were victorious, and they entered the town, and placing our flag in place of the Mexican, in the principal square, proclaimed the town to be taken in the name of the United States of America! The letter particularly stated that the men were principally Missourians, and I immediately set them down as Col. Price's men. I must say that this news receives more credit here than any Mexican news that has been in circulation since I have been in this country.

A gentleman by the name of Howard, arrived this morning from the Brazos.—He is of opinion that Gen. Scott will not be ready to leave there for two or three weeks. A Court Martial was in session at the time he left, trying Col. Harney for disobedience of orders. It seems that the Colonel had been ordered, whilst at Monterey, to proceed with his command to Victoria, and had refused to travel over the same ground so often. Gen. Worth is the President of the Court.

So hostile are the people around Tampico at this time, that they will not bring in their cattle, or sell them to our butchers for beef. From Victoria down here, they have paid great attention to the orders of the "big men" of their country, not to furnish us with any thing to eat. There is one thing certain, that if they will not bring in their cattle and receive pay, the army will go after it, and take it for nothing.

A very malignant fever prevails at this time in the hospital at Tampico, and many of our soldiers are suffering from it.—The physicians have been much troubled with it, and have now pronounced it a mild type of the yellow fever. Here, as at Monterey, there is, and has been, a great