

Oxford Mercury,

Agricultural
Constitutional

AND CITIZEN OF GRANVILLE.

C. H. WILEY, Editor.

VOL. I.

OXFORD, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1842.

R. J. MITCHELL, Proprietor.

No. XXXVII.

THE OXFORD MERCURY
IS PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
BY R. J. MITCHELL.

At Two Dollars per annum, if paid within six months after the receipt of the first number, if not, two dollars and fifty cents will be charged. Advertisements.—One dollar for every 16 lines, first insertion, and 25 cents for each succeeding insertion. Court orders and Judicial advertisements will be charged 25 per cent higher; but a deduction of 33 per cent will be made from the regular prices, for advertisers by the year. All letters to the Proprietor or Editor, must be Post-Paid.

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4thly. To teach Capitalists, who may be desirous of placing their funds in some productive branch of industry, to select, judiciously, among

FOR THE MERCURY. TEMPERANCE MEETING IN HENDERSON.

Pursuant to notice given, that a Temperance meeting would be held at Mrs. Southall's Logg Room on the evening of the 19th, a large and respectable number of the Ladies and Gentlemen of Henderson and vicinity assembled there at the appointed time. On motion of Capt. D. C. Young, the meeting was organized by appointing Mr. Lewis Reavis, sen. President, and W. W. Vass, Secretary. The object of the meeting having been explained by the President in a very striking and impressive manner, he concluded by offering up a Prayer in behalf of the sacred cause of Temperance.

Mr. Jno. Ziegenfuss, of Raleigh, then rose, by request, and addressed the meeting about one hour, in favor of the cause of Temperance, in that strain of fervid eloquence for which he is so remarkable. At the close of his remarks, about 40 Ladies and Gentlemen came forward and signed the pledge which he had drawn up for the occasion. After which, the following amended Preamble and Resolutions were introduced and read by Mr. W. W. Vass.

Whereas, the present generation have witnessed the onward march of civilization, the extension of useful knowledge, the improvements in the arts and sciences, and the spread of blessed doctrines of Christianity, yet we, the citizens of the Town of Henderson and adjacent country, have to deplore, in common with the majority of the People of North Carolina, that whilst a kind and benign Providence has blessed us with the most enlightened and the best

institutions of the kind on earth—that while our national growth and strength place us beyond the reach of any foreign power, yet we have within our own bosoms an enemy more to be dreaded than the United forces of Christendom were it arrayed against us. Need it be said that that foe is Intemperance? That the use, or rather the abuse, of ardent spirits and intoxicating liquors has fearfully increased during the past ten years, and has now reached a point at which it must either commence to retrograde, or all that is valuable to us as a nation must sink under its demoralizing and destructive influence.

What lover of his country, what lover of his fellow men, can calmly look around him without being sensibly impressed that it is his duty in this truly "Holy Alliance," to put down this national and individual evil. The United States have for the last sixty years been the Pharus to the oppressed people of Europe; their object and their aim have been to assimilate their Governments to ours, and shall we, whilst our national institutions are at once the admiration of the ruled and the dread of the oppressors, allow our fair fame to be overshadowed by the degrading influence of Intemperance? Shall we continue to see the rising generation, who ought to be their country's best hope, brought up to habits which unfit them for the destinies of that country? Shall we, whilst Providence has blest us with such an exuberant soil, and almost boundless territory—while peace is within our balwarks and plenty within our walls,—with liberty and every other blessing—shall we, with an ingratitude that would surpass the Israelites of old, immolate all these cherished blessings on the altar of the idol of Intemperance! Forbid it Heaven! Forbid it by all that is estimable in this life, and all that is hoped for in that to come. Deeply impressed with these feelings we, the Citizens of Henderson and its vicinity, have

Resolved, That we associate our-

selves together for the purpose of using our united and individual exertions, to put a stop to the growing evil of Drunkenness, and for the promotion of Temperance and Morality.

That, as sincere friends and advocates of the cause of Temperance generally, and in order to promote as far as possible, and encourage within the Corporation of Henderson and its vicinity, an improved system of morality, we shall join heart and hand in using every honorable means to abolish the degrading vice of Drunkenness; which we believe to be the origin and cause of more misery than any other evil that besets human nature.

That the future character and prosperity of our young country must, in a great degree, depend on the course it will now take, while the sacred cause of Temperance is making such happy progress around us, and deeply impressed with this truth we deem it necessary to make this public declaration of our determination individually and collectively, to denounce the use of all intoxicating liquors, as injurious to youth, inimical to the developments of the faculties of manhood and destructive to old age.

That duly appreciating the influence of the Ladies in the pursuit of all other good works, we invoke their cooperation as mothers, wives and sisters, to assist us by all means in their power; and we claim their aid as necessary to carry out our plans to a successful and triumphant issue.

On motion the Proceedings of this meeting, together with the above Preamble and Resolutions, were referred to be published in the Oxford Mercury and Raleigh Register, and other papers friendly to the cause.

Upon motion of Mr. V. Winfree, the meeting adjourned, to meet again at the same place, on the first of April.

LEWIS REAVIS, Pres't.
W. W. VASS, Sec'y.

FOR THE MERCURY.
TEMPERANCE.

MR. EDITOR:—The cause of Temperance is one, demanding the countenance and support of every true, philanthropic, freeborn son of America. It is a cause embracing the dearest interests of our beloved country, it is destined ere long, (if we credit the voice of reason,) to become the absorbing theme of virtuous friends, for surely where interest is at stake, people will arise to a sense of the high obligations devolving upon them. But before I further proceed, I deem it necessary to define the term temperance; it means nothing more nor less than the proper use of a thing. On what are the independent, virtuous institutions of our country based? on the firm impregnable basis of temperance, for it is manifest, virtuous institutions; never navigate the tumultuous sea of dissipation, but like the surging billows of the rolling flood, it bears its millions down, until it dashes them o'er the awful cataracts of degradation and irretrievable ruin. Who has not heard the widows wail respond to the orphans moan; while the monster laughed, callous to the heartrending scene! Who has not seen domestic peace, prosperity and happiness blasted by the crude monster's blighting touch! While the heart of the virtuous wife, (heavens last best gift to man) seemed poured forth in supplicating tears? Not the rattling thunder that rends the forest oak—not the vivid lightning's flash—not the fierce tornado's blast that sweeps the forest o'er—all these, in one fierce combination linked—are not half so much to be dreaded, as this one evil, the evil of intemperance; for they cannot effect the eternal principle of man? While this

evil strikes at the very foundation of moral goodness, man's passport from earth to the far salubrious climes of ineffable felicity. It surely is the monster of monsters born in the soil of natural depravity, nursed by the strong and certain hand of habit which never fails of accomplishing its object, the destruction of its victim; it mounts the throne in the guise of fashion, and grapples with monarchs in deadly strife! See an Alexander who had a genius (to use the expression of Sophocles,) that required, "the rudder's guidance and the curb's restraint;" see him commingling his tears with the dashing waves of tumultuous Ganges, why weeps he there: While his groans respond to the tempest's roar? Because nations have ceased to resist. He stands beneath the unrivaled flag of earth too high for virtuous restraint; too low to catch the eye of heaven. He who swayed the world could not govern his appetite, could not resist the force of habit that bore him down before its mighty sweep! and soon like a maniac he is dancing in his chains, within the dilapidated walls of Babylon! and sinks beneath the muddy waves of obscurity, a dissipated wretch. He whose sun rose high emblazoned on high, sunk in shame! His country's curse—his country's scourge! But this digression will not do; to return: even the sacred stand is often polluted by its pointing footsteps! But I pause; I cannot approach a thought so awful, to see a minister of the gospel, capable of holding communion with his God, wallowing in the mire, with features decayed, reason dethroned, a degraded outcast of society; belabored with mud. Surely if Angels could weep, they ought to weep at such a sight. Surely the meanest drunkard knows that drunkenness is a sight at which reason weeps, and hides her head, disgusted at the sight.— Surely the good prophet peeped thro' the vista of time at man's degradation; when he cried out, "Lord, what is man that thou art mindful of him?" It is said that Gen. Lee, whose thrilling eloquence eulogised the virtues of the immortal Washington—had not the moral courage to brook restraint, and filled a drunkard's grave! He who "with lips of fire," had plead his country's cause; he who had put his foot upon the iron neck of despotism, and called republicans to their charge; he sank beneath the surging billows of dissipation, and did his country's curse. Is this the history of greatness? Poor infatuated man! How inconsistent, how egregiously and preposterously foolish is man! We see our fathers shattered against the rocks of despair, concealed under the stream of habit, while we vainly think we are more skillful navigators than they. We see virtue oppressed while we refuse to extricate her from her difficulties; we sleep, while the fires of dissipation are consuming the moral energy of our nation; we laugh while tears of woe trickle in our sight; we boast of liberty's onward march, while the monster rivets fast his chains; we talk of peace and security of soul, while the thunders of despair are towering o'er our heads, reader to burst upon our false misguidance with a tenfold vengeance!

R. W. H.

IMPORTANT FROM THE WEST.—Rumors are in circulation in the West that the tribes of Indians removed from the United States prior to the western line, are about to form a grand Confederacy, or one tribe, for hostile purposes. It is also stated that an interview was had with the British minister at Washington, by the notorious John Ross, chief of the Cherokees, while on a visit to that place a short time since.—*Richmond Star.*

Mr. Clay's answer to the Committee appointed by the Whig Convention to invite him to attend the convention held in Raleigh on Monday last.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1842.
GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your obliging letter, transmitting a Resolution adopted by the Whigs of Wake county, in conformity to which you have invited me to attend the Convention of the Whigs, which is to be held on the 4th of April, at Raleigh.

Having long entertained an anxious desire to visit North Carolina, I have delayed answering your letter, under the hope that I should find no circumstances or considerations opposed to my enjoying the gratification which such a visit, at this time, would afford. But I regret to be compelled to say, without adverting to other reasons, that the pressure of occupations, incident to the final termination of my service in the Senate of the United States, deprives me of the satisfaction of accepting your invitation, and obliges me to postpone a visit which I hope God will spare me to make hereafter.

It rejoices to hear of the fire spirit which prevails in North Carolina, and that the great Whig party of that State is about to assemble in Convention, for the purpose of deliberating on the present difficult and delicate position of public affairs. Our Country, brought to the verge of ruin, by a long mal-administration of its General Government, the sad effects of which pervade every section of the Union, and are painfully visible in every leading interest, had reason to hope, after the glorious issue of the ever memorable battle of 1840, that misrule would cease, and measures, founded in wisdom and experience, would be adopted, to restore the prosperity of the Nation. I need not say how cruelly, in some respects, all have been disappointed. Our actual condition may be described in a few words. Instead of mutual confidence between the acting President and Congress, there is mutual distrust. Instead of his throwing himself upon the principles and the party that elevated him, he makes war upon both. Instead of harmony and co-operation, there is discord and opposition. A President without a party, and parties without a President! A President, denouncing his friends, and courting his political opponents, who, in their turn, without entertaining for him the least respect or confidence, give him flattery and praise enough, just to deceive and delude him. A President, who affecting to soar in an atmosphere above that of all parties, and to place himself upon the broad and patriotic foundation of the whole nation, is vainly seeking, by a culpable administration of the patronage of the Government, to create a third party!

This, gentlemen, is a faithful picture of the present posture of our National Councils. There may be those who will think that it would be most prudent not to exhibit it to the gaze of the world. But I believe that public virtue, and the public interests, are always better subserved by pronouncing rather than concealing the truth. And, accustomed as I have been to its language, throughout my whole life, I trust that the precious privilege of fearlessly uttering it, will abide with me, during the short remnant of my days.

The existing state of things is anomalous and embarrassing. But genuine patriotism takes council only from its duty and its devotion. Unappalled, by difficulties, whatever may be their magnitude, it redoubles its resolute and its courage, as they increase and multiply and finally triumph over all obstacles which lie in the way of the honor; the prosperity or the happiness of the country.

To every editor who will forward to me entire 12 insertions, I will forward, in order, one copy of the whole work provided the paper containing this notice be sent to the New York Watchmen, New York.
Feb 12 32 12t

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and if the market will justify, he will sell on much more reasonable terms than heretofore. All families wishing to purchase articles of him, will do well to leave orders with Col. Carter of this place.

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