From the National Intelligencer.

ASHVILLE, (N. C.) OCTOBER 14, 1848

GENTLEMEN: As you have recently been publishing a series of letters in relation to that portion of the Alleghany range which is situated in North Carolina, you may, perhaps, find matter of interest in the subject of this communication. My purpose in making it is not only to present to the consideration of those learned or curious in geology, facts singular and interesting in themselves, but also, by means of your widely disseminated paper, to stimulate an inquiry as to whether similar phenomena have been observed in any other parts of the Alleghany range.

A number of persons had stated to me that at different periods, within the recollection of persons now living, a portion of a certain mountain in Haywood county had been violently agitated and broken to pieces. The first of these shocks remembered by any person whom I have seen, occurred just prior to the last war with England, in the year 1811 or 1812. Since then some half a dozen or more have been noticed. The latest occurred something more than three years ago, on a clear summer morning. These shocks have usually occurred, or at least been more frequently observed, in calm weather. They have generally been heard distinctly by persons in the town of Waynesville, some twenty miles off. The sound is described as resembling of distant thunder, but no shaking of the earth is felt at that distance. In the immediate vicinity of the mountain, and for four or five miles around, this sound is accompanied by a slight trembling of the earth, which continues as long as the sound lasts—that is, for one or two minutes. After each of these shocks the mountain was found to be freshly rent and broken in various places.

Having an opportunity afforded me a few days since, I paid a visit to the locality, and devoted a few hours to a hurried examination. It is situated in the northeastern section of Haywood county, near the head of Fine's creek. The bed of the little creek at the mountain is probably elevated some twenty-six or seven hundred feet above the level of the ocean. The valley of the French Bread, at the Warm Springs, some fifteen miles distant, is twelve hundred feet lower. They are separated, however, by a mountain ride of more than four thousand feet elevation above the sea, and there are high mountains in all directions around the locality in question. The immediate object of interest is the western termination of a mountain ridge nearly half a mile to the east of the house of Mr. Matthew Rogers. The top of this ridge, at the place where it has been recently convulsed, is some three or four hundred feet above the creek; at its western extremity, but it rises rapidly for some distance as it goes off to the eastward towards the higher mountain range. The northern side of this ridge I had not time to examine, but the marks of violence are observable at the top of the ridge, and extend in a direction nearly due south down the side of the mountain four or five hundred yards, to a little branch; thence across it, over a flat or gentle slope, and up the side of the next ridge as far as I went, being for three or four hundred yards. The tract of ground examined by me was perhaps half a mile in length from north to south. The breadth of the surface subjected to violence was nowhere more than two hundred yards, and generally rather less than one hundred. Along this space the ground has been rent in various places. The fissures or cracks most frequently run in a northern direction, and towards the tops of the mountains, but they are often at right angles to these, and in fact some may be found in all directions. While some of them are so narrow as to be barely visible, others are three or four feet in width.—The annual falling of the leaves and the washing of the rains has filled them so that at no place are they more than five or six feet in depth. Along this tract all the large trees have been thrown down, and are lyingin various directions, some of them six feet in diameter. One large poplar, which stood directly over one of the fissures, was left open, and one-half of the trunk, to the height of more than twenty feet, is still standing. Though the fissures, which passed directly under its centre, is not more than an inch in width, it may be observed for nearly a hundred yards. All the roots of trees which crossed the line's fracture are broken. The rocks are also cloven by these lines. The top of the ridge, which seems orignally to have been an entire mass of granite, is broken in places. Not only have those masses of rock, which are chiefly uuder ground, been cleft open, but fragments lying on the surface have been shattered. All those persons who have visited it immediately after a convulsion concur in saying that every fallen tree and rock has been moved. The smallest fragments have been thrown from their beds as though they had been lifted up In confirmation of this statement I observed that a large block of granite, of an oblong form, which, from its size, must have weighed not less than two thousand tons, had been broken into three pieces of nearly equal size. This mass was lying lossely on the top of the ground, in a place nearly level, and there were no signs of its having rolled or slidden. The fragments were separated only a few inches, rendering it almost certain that it had been broken by a sudden shock or jar, which did not continue long enough to throw the pieces far apart.

Some parts of the surface of the earth have sunk down irregularly a few feet, other portions have been raised. There are a number of little elevations or hillocks, some of a few feet only in extent, and others twenty and thirty yards over. The largest rise at the centre to the height of eight or ten feet, and slope gradually down; some of these have been surrounded on all sides by a fissure, which is not yet entirely filled up. In some instances the trees on their sides, none of them large, are bent considerably from the perpendicular, showing that they had attained some size before the change of level took place on the surface where they grow.

The sides of the mountain generally are covered by a good vegetable mould, not particularly rocky, and sustaining trees of large size. But along the belt of convulsion the rocks are much more abundant, and there are only young trees growing, the elasticity of which enabled them to stand during the shocks.

With reference to the mineral structure of the locality, it may be remarked that that entire section seems to constitute a hypogene formation. It consists of granites, gneiss, sometimes porphyritic hornblende rock, micaceous schists, clay slate, and various other metamorphic strata. The nearest aqueous rocks that I know of are the conglomerate sand-stones and sedimentary limestone, in the vicinity of the Warm Springs, fifteen miles distant in a direct line. If any volcanic rock has been found in hundreds of miles I am not aware of it. The mountain itself bears the most indubitable marks of plutonic origin. It consists mainly of a grayish white granite, in which the felspar greatly prodominates, but it is sometimes rendered dark by an excess of mica in minute black scales. This latter mineral I saw also there in small rather irregular crystals. Some portions of the rock contained, however, its three ingredients, in nearly equal proportions; the quartz, in color, frequently approaching ash gray. In several places I observed that the granite was cut vertically by veins of gray translucent quartz, of from one to six inches in thickness. There were also lying in places on the ground lumps of common opaque white quartz, intersected by narrow veins not exceeding ½ an inch in thickness, of specular iron, of the highest degree of brilliancy and hardness that that mineral is capable of possessing. It may be remarked that there are, in different directions within two miles of the locality, two considerable deposites of magnetic iron ore. The only rock which I observed there possessing any appearance of stratification seems to consist of mica, hornblende, and a little felspar, in a state of intimate mixture. Having but a few hours to remain there, I do not pretend that there are not many other minerals at the locality; but I have no doubt but that the predominating character of the formation is such as I have endeavored to describe it, and I have been thus minute in order that others may be able to judge more accurately in relation to the cause of the disturbances.

Before visiting the locality I supposed that the phenomena might be produced by the giving way of some part of the base of the mountain, so as to produce a sinking or sliding of the parts; but a moment's examination was decisive on this point. It not unfrequently happens that aqueous rocks rest on beds of clay, gravel, &c., which may be removed from underneath them by the action of running water or other causes. Cavities are thus produced, and it sometimes happen that considerable bodies of secondary limestone and other sedimentary strata sink down with a violent shock. This, however, is found to be true only of such strata as are deposited from water. But at the locality under consideration the rocks are exclusively of igneous origin, and I may add, too, of the class termed *hypogene* or "*nether formed.*" For though felspar and hornblende have been found in the lower parts of some of the lavas, where the mass had been subjected to great pressure and cooled slowly, yet quartz and mica have never been found as consti tuents of any volcanic rock, not even in the basaltic dikes and injected traps, where there must have been a pressure equal to several hundred atmospheres. It is universally conceded by geologists that those rocks, of which these minerals constitute a principal part, have been produced at great depths in the earth where they were subjected to enormous pressure during their slow cooling and crystallization. Prior, therefore, to the denudation which has exposed these masses of granite to our view, they must have been overlaid and pressed down while in a fluid state by superincumbent strata of great thickness and vast weight. It is not probable, therefore, that any cavities could exist, nor, even if it were possible that such could be the case, is it at all likely that a granite arch which once upheld such an immense weight would in our day give way under the simple pressure of the atmosphere; or, even if we were to adopt improbable supposition that the mass of granite composing this mountain had been formed at a great depth below the present surface of the earth, and forced up bodily by plutonic action, there is as little reason to believe that any cavities could exist. In fact, they are never found under granites. On looking at the surface of the ground at this place there is no appearance to indicate any general sinking of the mass. At the top of the ridge, where the fractures are observable across it, there is no variation in the slope of the surface or depression of the broken parts. Immediately below it, where the mountain has great steepness, equal at least to an inclination of forty-five degress, where the line of fracture is parallel to the direction of the ridge, the surface is sunk suddenly ten or fifteen feet. This state of things, however, would inevitably be produced at such an inclination by the force of gravity alone, causing the parts separated by the shock to sink somewhat as they descend the mountain side. Lower down, where the steepness is not so great, the elevations much exceed the depressions. The same is true of the appearances on the south side of the branch, where the surface is almost level for several hundred yards; and I think that any one surveying the whole of the disturbed ground will be brought to the conclusion that there has been a general upheaval rather than a depression, and that the irregularities now observable are due to a force acting from below, which has during the shocks unequally raised different parts of the surface. One of the earlier geologists, while this science was in its infancy, would probably have ascribed these phenomena to the presence underneath the surface of a bed of pyrites, bituminous shale, or some other substance capable of spontaneous combustion, which had taken fire from being penetrated by a stream of water or some other accidental cause. If such a combustion were to take place at a considerable depth below the surface, and should to a considerable extent heat the strata above, they would thereby be expanded and thickened so as to be forced upward. Such an expansion, though it would be less in granite than in some other strata as shown by your fellow-townsman, Col. Totten, would nevertheless, if the heated mass were thick and the elevation of temperature considerable, be sufficient to raise the surface as much as it appears to have been elevated; such expansion, however, being necessarily from its nature very gradual, would not account for the various violent shocks nor for the irregular action of the surface. On the other hand, if the burning mass were near the surface, so as to cause explosion by means of gases generated from time to time, it is scarcely inconceivable that such gases, while escaping through fissures of the rock above, should fail to be observed, inasmuch as a great volume would be necessary to supply the requisite amount of force, nor is it at all conceivable that such a state of things would not be accompanied by a sensible change of temperature at the surface. The difficulty in the way of such a supposition is greatly increased when we consider the form of the long narrow belt acted on, and from the recurrence of the sudden violent shocks after long intervals of quiet. Such a hypothesis in fact I do not regard as entitled to more respect than another one which was suggested to me at the place. As it has no other merit than that of *originality*, I should not have tho't it worth repeating but for the statement of fact made in support of it. While I was observing the locality, my attention was directed to an elderly man who was gliding with a healthy step through the forest, carrying on his left shoulder a rifle, and in his right hand a small hoe, such as the diggers of ginseng use. His glances, alternating between the distant ridges and the plants about his feet, showed that while looking for deer he was not unmindful of the wants of the inhabitants of the Celestial Empire. On my questioning him in relation to the appearances, he said that he had observed them often after the different shocks; that the appearances were changed each time at the surface; that I ought to see it just after a shock, before the rain and leaves had filled the cracks, adding that it did "not show at all now." He expressed a decided opinion that the convulsions were produced by *silver* under the surface.—On my remarking that though I knew that that metal in the hands of men was an effective agent in cleaving rocks and excavating the earth, yet I had not supposed it could exert such an influence when deeply buried under ground, he stated in support of his opinion that one of his neighbors had on the northside of the mountain found a spring hot enough to boil an egg. He also added that some three years since he had seen on the mountain, two miles to the north of this one, but in the direction seemingly of the line of force, a blazing fire for several hours, rising up sometimes as high as the tops of the trees and going out suddenly for a moment at a time at frequent intervals. He declared that at the distance of a mile from where he was the brightness was sufficient to enable him to see small objects. Several other persons in the vicinity I found subsequently professed to have seen the same light from different points of view, and described it in a similar manner. As no one of them seems to have thought enough of the matter to induce him to attempt to approach the place, though some persons represented that they had subsequently founda great quantity of "cinder" at the point, the statement of fact is not perhaps entitled to more weight than the hypothesis it was intended to support.

It is probable, however, that some difficulty will attend any explanation that can be offered in relation to the phenomena at this place. We know that the elevation of the surface of the earth is at many places undergoing a change, so gradual as not to be observed at any one time. Some of the north-western parts of Europe, for example, are experiencing a slow *upheaval* equal to five or six feet in a century, while on the coast of Greenland the *subsidence*, or depression, is such, that even the ignorant inhabitants have learned that it is not prudent for them to build their huts near the edge of the water. Similar changes are observed in various other places, but they obviously bear no analogy to the facts under consideration. Again, it is well known that earthquakes from time to time agitate violently portions of the earth's surface of greater or less extent; that while one single shock has permanently raised two or three feet the coast of Chili for several hundred miles, others have elevated or depressed comparatively small spaces. It usually happens, however, that when the shock is so forcible at one point as to break the solid strata of the globe, the surrounding parts are violently agitated for a considerable distance. In the present instance, however, the shock for half a mile at least in length and for the breadth of one hundred yards, is such as to cleave a mass of granite of seemingly indefinite extent, and so quick and sudden as to displace the smallest fragments on the surface; and yet at the house of Mr. Rogers, less than half a mile distant, a slight trembling only is felt, not sufficient to excite alarm, while at the distance of a few miles, though the sound is heard, no agitation of the ground is felt. Should we adopt the view of those who maintain that all the central parts of the earth are in a state of fusion, and that violent movements of parts of the melted mass give rise to the shocks which are felt at the surface, the explanation of this and similar phenomena is still not free from difficulty. Upon the supposition that the solid crust of the globe has no greater thickness than that assumed by Humboldt, some twenty-odd miles, it would scarcely seem that such a crust, composed of rocky strata, would have the requisite degree of elasticity to propagate a violent shock to so small a surface without a greater agitation of the surrounding parts than is sometimes observed. Volcanic eruptions, however, take place through every variety of strata; but these volcanoes are rarely if ever isolated; on the contrary, not only the volcanoes now active, but such as have been in a state of rest from the earliest historic era, are distributed along certain great lines of force, or belts, the limits of which seem to have been pretty well defined by geologists. But I am not aware of there being any evidence afforded of volcanic action, either in recent or remote geological ages, within hundreds of miles of this locality. Even if such exist beneath the sea, it must be at least two hundred miles distant. If then we attribute these convulsions to the same causes which have elsewhere generated earthquakes and volcanoes, it is probable that this is the only point in the Alleghany range thus acted on? The fact that nothing else of the kind has been, as far as I know, published to the world, is by no means conclusive, since the disturbances here have not only been unnoticed by writers, but are even unkown to nine-tenths of those persons living within fifty miles of the spot. Is it then improbable that different points of the great mountain range are sensibly acted on from year to year? It is true that this may be the only locality affected. It might be supposed that there is at this place a mass of rock, separated wholly or partially from the adjoining strata, reaching to a great depth, and resting on a fluid basin, the agitation of which occasionally would give a shock to this mass. Though such be not at all probable, yet it is conceivable that such a mass might possess the requisite shape; and if at the top, instead of being a single piece, it should have a number of irregular fragments resting on it below the surface, then it might be capable of producing inequalities observable after each successive convulsion. From the form, however, of the belt acted on, as well as from other considerations, such a hypothesis is only possible, not probable. It would perhaps more readily be conceded that there was in the solid strata below an oblong opening, or wide fissure, connected with the fluid basin below, and filled either with melted lava, or more probably with elastic gas, condensed under vast pressure, so that the occasional agitations below would be propagated to the surface at this spot. Or if we suppose that steam, at a high heat, or some of the other elastic gaseous substances, should escape through fissures from the depths below, but have their course obstructed near the surface, so as to accumulate from time to time, until their force was sufficient to overpower the resistance, then a succession of periodic explosions might occur. Such a state of things would be analogous to the manner in which Mr. Lyell accounts for the Geysers, or Intermittent Hot Springs, in Iceland, except that the intervals between the explosions in this instance are much greater than in the other. It is easy to conceive that the shocks of some former earthquakes may have produced the requisite condition in the strata at that place.

Or, should we reject all such suppositions, it might be worth while to enquire whether this and similar phenomena may not be due to electricity? The opinion seems to have become general with men of science, that there are great currents of electricity circulating in the shell of the globe, mainly if not entirely in directions parallel to the magnetic equator. The observations and experiments of Mr Fox have, in the opinion of a geologist so eminent as Mr. Lyell, established the fact that there are electro-magnetic currents along metalliferous veins. Taking these things to be true, it may well be that the electricity in its passage should be collected and concentrated along certain great veins. During any commotion in the great ocean of electricity, the currents along such lines, or rather where they are interrupted, might give rise to sensible shocks—The exceedingly quick, vibratory motion, often observed on such occasions, seems analogous to some of the observed effects of electricity. In the present instance, the line of force appears to coincide with the direction of the magnetic needle. It is represented that the sound accompanying the convulsions is heard more distinctly at Waynesville, twenty miles due South, than it is within two or three miles to the east or west of the locality, seeming to imply that the force may be exerted in a long line, though it is more intense at a particular point. In adverting, however, to the manner in which the phenomena observed at this place, might possibly be accounted for, it is not my expectation to be able to arrive at their cause. One whose attention is mainly directed to political affairs, and who at most gets but an occasional glimpse of a book of science, ought neither to assume, nor to be expected to accomplish this. I have adopted the above mode of making suggestions as to the causes, solely to enable me to explain the facts observed in a more intelligible manner than I could do by a mere detail of the appearances and events as narrated. Perhaps those whose minds are chiefly occupied with the consideration of such subjects, will find an easy solution of these phenomena. Should this letter be instrumental in eliciting information in relation to similar disturbances elsewhere in the Alleghany range, then its publication may answer some valuable purpose.

Very respectfully, yours,
T. L. CLINGMAN.

Messrs. GALES & SEATON.

☞ The following beautiful lines are from the Louisville Journal!—

Lady, a few cold words were only ours,
We met as strangers, and as strangers part.
I've gazed upon thee but a few brief hours,
And yet it seems a life-time to my heart!
I need not praise thee—flattered as thou art
In the bright circle of thy radiant sphere.
I dare not praise thee—lest my thoughts should start
In burning words thou wouldn't not wish to hear!
Words that too oft perchance have met thy gentle ear.

But I may say farewell—and dare to ponder,
Upon the low-breathed witchery of thy words,
And on the tones that o'er thy red lip wander,
Sweet as the melody of early birds.
And oft imagination sweet and warm
Shall picture forth thine almost girlish face,
And the soft beauty of thy matchless form,
Whose every movement is a gliding grace!
Yes! these within my heart forever shall have place!

Oh! thou whose songs can make the full heart flutter
In the sad bosom like a happy bird,
Whose looks reveal all that thy lips would utter,
Before those smiling lips have breathed a word!
The holy breathings of whose hearts are heard
Only by angels watching thy sweet dreams,
The holy stillness of whose heart is stirred
Only by seraphs troubling its sweet streams,
Forgive me if too wild my admiration seems!

Forgive the boyish heart that dares to fashion
Its wild and wayward thoughts by thine so long,
Thou glorious child of impulse and of passion—
Thou burning Sappho in the reals of song,
Thou round whose heart such heavenly visions throng,
'Twould take an angel's tongue its bliss to tell,
Thou unto whom such varied gifts belong,
The woman's witchery—and the poet's spell
Of hight and holy thought—forgive me—and—farewell!

If Gen. Taylor is elected to the Presidency, it will be the first item of 'extra pay' for forty years of the most devoted and glorious services ever tendered to any country.—*Louisville Journal.*

Gen. Taylor gains 397 in *Cass* Co, Georgia.

THE LAST LOOK.

There are few in this world who have not lost some dear friend, either linked to them by the ties of blood, or by a pleasant companionship enshrined in their hearts, and hallowed and held sacred by a true and disinterested affect on. The insatient tomb has robbed almost every one whom it has spared, of some being on whom his eye rested with pleasure, who softened for him the asperities of life's rough pathway, and into whose bosom he poured his own heart's rich treasures feelings, confidence and love. They have seen them drop and die gradually, perhaps. They have seen the rose fade—the flesh waste—the muscles relax—and the eye grow lustreless, or beam with that unnatural light which is sometimes born of disease, and only tells of its progress. They have watched in grief and tears the shiftings of fever—the slow sinking away of life—the hours of agony—the days of quiet and apparent convalesence—the hopeless relapse—and the final triumph of death. They have paced the room where tho poor body lay shrouded for the grave, and where Death almost seemed visibly present, casting a shadow upon every wall and object, and gazed on the rigid form, the marble aspect, the soulless, unspeaking features. They have felt too, that deep oppression and heartsickness which comes over every one upon such an occasion, where the grim tyrant seems to be watching and gloating over his victim, and the riot of decay is already beginning to be seen All this has lacerated and crushed their hearts; but, perhaps, the bitterest pang of all came with the last look into the grave, when the coffin had been lowered, the loved object consigned to its long, dreamless rest, and the busy spade of the sexton was throwing back the senseless earth upon it, and hiding it forever.

During sickness, we have the object before us, wasted and sadly changed it may be, but still capable of communing with us, of appreciating our kindness, of returning our love, and of throwing a few rays of sun-light over the cloud of our sorrow—faint, indeed, yet still enough to gild its gathering gloom. There is still the old smile running now and then over the features, and lighting them up with something of their former expression. The voice, too, though it is not what it once was, falls upon our ears, and we follow our friend with a sort of lingering hope, convinced of his doom, yet half looking for deliverance, down to the very banks of death's river. And even when that voice is hushed, and the last smile has faded, when the bolt of doom has been launched, and the wreck of mortality lies before us, we somehow take a melancholy pleasure in gazing at the expressionless features, and linger in blind devotion at the shrine, though the deity which hallowed it has departed!

But when we gaze into the closing grave, we feel that our friend is indeed gone and hidden from us forever. He has made his final exit from the stage of life, the curtain has fallen, and we shall see him no more, till we ourselves pass behind the scenes.

We know that we can listen to his voice no more breathing eloqnence in public, or cheerfulness in the daily intercourse of life. We can never gaze into his eyes again, flashing with genius, beaming with kindness, or shedding tears for human suffering. We shall meet him no more in the busy crowd, or at the quiet fireside. The grave has received him to its remorseless embrace, and his sensible presence is lost to us forever.

All these thoughts rush upon the mind at that moment and sweep over the heart in a tempest of wild and bitter agony. The brightness of the past but renders the present more dark the future more gloomy. The pinions of hope, though unbroken, are wet and heavy with tears, and scarcely bear the heart above the grave into which it looks, and where its idol lies. Oh! the last look into the grave of kindred, on the cherished companions of life, would, indeed, scarcely be endurable, did not revelation assure us of a resurrection, and whisper to our hearts the sweet promise of immortality. God help the man who, at such an hour, has no faith in that promise, and believes all which was his friend is thence forth nothing but dust! Infidelity shrinks away from the grave, offering no consolation to her barren creed, and nothing but Christianity can throw any light upon the burial hour, and the resting place of the dead.

COLD WINTER IS COMING

Cold winter is coming—take care of your toes,
Gay Zephyr has folded his fan,
His lances are couch'd in the ice-wind that blows,
So mail up as warm as you can.

Cold winter is coming—he's ready to start,
From his home to the mountains afar;
He is shrunken and pale, he looks froze to the heart,
And snow-wreaths embellish his ear!

Cold winter is coming—there breathes not a flower,
Though sometimes the day may pass fair!
The soft lute is removed from the lady's lorn bower
Lest it coldly be touched by the air.

Cold winter is coming—all stript are the groves,
The passge-bird hastens away;
To the lovely blue South, like the tourist, he roves,
And returns like the sunshine in May.

Cold winter is coming—he'll breathe on the stream,
And the bane of his petrific breath,
Will seal up the waters, till, in the moon-beam,
They lie stirless, as slumber of death!

Cold winter is coming—and soon shall we see
On the panes, by that genius Jack Frost,
Fine drawings of mountain, stream, tower and tree,
Framed and gazed too, without any cost.

Cold winter is coming—ye delicate fair,
Take care when your hyson you sip;
Drink it quick; and don't talk, lest he come unaware,
And turn to ice on your lip.

Cold winter is coming—I charge you again—
Muffle warm—of the tyrant beware—
He's so brave, that to strike the young hero he's fain,
He's so cold he'll not favor the fair.

Cold winter is coming—I've said so before—
It seems I've not much to say;
Yes, Winter is coming, and God help the poor!
I wish it was going away.

LACONIC CORRESPONDENCE.

POLK TO CASS.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7, 1848.

SIR—On behalf of the Democracy, I have the honor to request your presence at the White House, on the 4th of March.

With high consideration,
J. K. POLK.

CASS TO POLK.

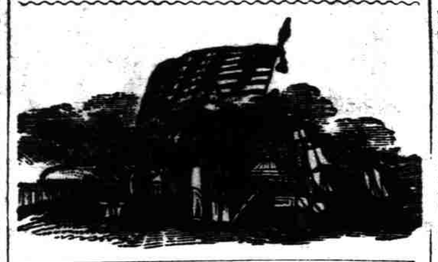
SIR—I thank you for your polite letter inviting me to visit the White House on the 4th of March next, and regret to say that CITCUMSTANCES will prevent my being present on that occasion.

Respectfully yours,
LEWIS CASS.

TO THE HUSBAND.

Speak kindly to her. Little dost thou know
What utter wretchedness, what hopeless wo
Hang on those bitter words, that stern reply,
The cold demeanor and reproving eye.
The death-steel pierces not with keener dart
Than unkind words in woman's trusting heart.
The frail being by thy side is of finer mould:—keener her sense of pain, of wrong—greater her love of tenderness. How delicately tuned her heart; each ruder breath upon its strings complains in lowest notes of sadness, not heard, but felt. It wears away her life like a deep under current, whilst the fair mirror of the changing surface gives not one sigh of wo.

RALEIGH REGISTER.



Ours are the plans of fair delightful peace,
Unwarp'd by party rage to live like brothers.

RALEIGH, N. C.

Wednesday Morning, November 22, 1848.

☞ Persons desirous of subscribing for the REGISTER, during the ensuing Session of the Legislature, can do so at the following rates, payable, of course, in advance:

Semi Weekly Paper,	$1 00
Weekly do.	50

It is evident that the coming Session will be an exciting and important one. The Editor will endeavor to furnish full and accurate Reports of its Proceedings.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

Monday last being the day fixed by law for the *biennial* meeting of the Legislature of North Carolina, the members of both branches assembled at the Capitol at 3 o'clock, P. M. for the purpose of organization. Not only were the Members unusually punctual in their attendance, (every member of both Houses being present, except Mr. Flemming, Commoner from Yancy, he having resigned his seat,) but the lobbies and galleries were crammed with spectators, called there to witness the organization of the two Houses, with parties more nearly balanced than was ever before known, we believe, in North Carolina.

The Senate was called to order by Henry W. Miller, Esq. Principal Clerk at the last Session, and the Senators were sworn in by Wm. Thompson, Esq. a Justice of the Peace for Wake County—50 Senators—the whole number—answering to their names.

After which, Mr. Gilmer moved that the Senate proceed to the election of a Speaker, and nominated for that station that sterling, veteran, Whig, Col. Andrew Joyner, of Halifax. The name of Calvin Graves, Esq. (Loco) of Caswell, was added to the nomination by Mr. Ashe, of New Hanover.

The Senate then proceeded to vote, when the Clerk announced the following as the result:

For Andrew Joyner	24
For Calvin Graves	24

Messrs. Joyner and Graves not voting.

There being no election, on motion of Mr. Halsey, the Senate proceeded to ballot again, with the same result; when Mr. Ashe moved an adjournment till tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock, and the Senate adjourned accordingly.

The House of Commons was called to order by J. R. Dodge, Esq. Reading Clerk at the last Session. A quorum appearing, Tho. G. Whitaker, Esq. administered the usual oaths of qualification; which tedious business being over,

Mr. Stanly, of Beaufort, proposed the name of Robert B. Gilliam, (Whig) of Granville, as Speaker, and Mr. Courts, of Rockingham, added to the nomination, Jas. C. Dobbin, of Cumberland; when, the House proceeded to vote as follows:

For Gilliam	59
For Dobbin	58

Mr. Gilliam voted for Mr. Ferrebee, and Mr. Dobbin for Mr. Courts. 119 members having voted, and it requiring 60 to elect, the Clerk announced that there was no choice; when a second balloting ensued, resulting as did the first, with the exception that Mr. Gilliam did not vote at all.

The House then adjourned to Tuesday, at 10 o'clock.

Both Houses met on yesterday morning, pursuant to adjournment. Several ballotings were had in each, for Speakers, but both Houses adjourned to Wednesday morning, without being able to elect.

Upon the Democrats of the Legislature rests the responsibility of this delay and obstruction to legislation. They refuse to concede to the Whigs the Speaker of the Senate, an Officer who, in the event of the death of the Governor, becomes the Executive of the State! We ask is this fair—is it just? At the recent Presidential Election, the Whig candidate received the vote of the State by a majority exceeding 8,000—and in warm and active contests for Governor, the Democrats have failed, ever since the People had the selection of the Executive, to secure that Officer for their party, by from 800 to 8,000 votes. And yet in the face of these *facts*, availing themselves of the power accidentally gained, the Democrats in the Senate are endeavoring to *foist* and *force* upon the People, in the event of a contingency, that which they have over and over again repudiated and refused, viz: a LOCO FOCO GOVERNOR! What justice, what magnanimity is there in such conduct? We call upon the PEOPLE to mark well the course of these scoffers of the popular will—some of whom represent strong Whig Districts, and put the seal of their reprobation upon those who would thus trifle with their wish and will.

In the House of Commons, also, the failure of an organization is occasioned by the Democrats. In consequence of the resignation of Mr. Flemming, there are 119 members of the House, of which number, the Whigs have 60, and the Democrats 59—leaving the Whigs with 1 majority. In electing Speaker, 60 votes constitute a majority, if all present vote. After the 1st balloting, Mr. Gilliam, the Whig candidate for Speaker, has declined voting, and had Mr. Dobbin, the Democratic candidate, done so also, the Whigs would have had the power to have chosen Speaker, and thus proceeded at once to further business. But with unbecoming pertinacity Mr. D. still continues to vote, and thus prevents the first advancement to an organization. Such conduct cannot fail to receive, as it justly merits, the disapprobation of the candid People of the Old North State.

Official Vote of North Carolina.

The official Returns from all the Counties in the State have been received at the Executive Office, and the vote stands thus, (Yancy County excepted, on account of some informality in the return):

Taylor,	43,519	
Cass,	34,869	
		8,650 majority.
Add Yancy, for Taylor	31	majority,
Making Taylor's majority,		8,681!!!

IMPORTANCE of our LATE VICTORY.

In regarding the pernicious and corrupt course of policy that has characterized the administration of the present Executive, we are without words to express the high gratification we feel at the result of the late Presidential Election—ensuring as it does, in our humble judgment, such great and important benefit to the Country. The Democratic Candidate, restricted as to his official acts, in the event of his election, by the blind requirements of a partizan Platform, was pledged to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, and improve, if possible, upon the anti-Republican tendencies of his administration.—We need not stop here to animadvert at any length upon those—for enough has been passing before our eyes, to convince every candid mind that the Government is arrayed against the People, and that so far from extending the hand of parental protection over them, it has been engaged in devising schemes to control public opinion, and force it into channels favorable to itself. The lust for power and place has been allowed to override and supersede all considerations of a conservative and liberal character. The concentration of an unlimited power in the hands of a single individual has checked the progress of peaceful Legislative supremacy; the spirit of conquest has been diffused abroad through the delusive agency of inflamatory appeals to misnomered patriotism; the disgraceful interference of office-holders in the freedom of Election has wrought, so far as such influences extended, a gross perversion of the original design of our Government.—Such tendencies and such practises allowed *that* libertine range, which they would doubtless attain during another four years of such mal-administration, would render Republican professions but an empty show of words, and the name of Freedom a mockery and a reproach. Its early founders, restored for a while to the contemplation and study of earthly things, could then never realize in the shattered fragments and disordered remains of our Constitutional fabric, the Republic of their aims, the Country of their aspirations. But thanks to the intelligence and patriotism of an enlightened People, and the ordaining of a wise, overruling Providence, the immediate oppressions under which we labor, and the prospective evils which threaten the Land, have been arrested and prevented, by the happy issue of the late Presidential Election.

In Gen. TAYLOR, we have a Chief Magistrate bound to no other system of administration than that dictated by the conscientious exercise of a sound judgment. Thus far he *is* pledged—to shape the policy of the Government by the standard of our earlier administrations, and to conform as nearly as possible to the Republican usages, doctrines and examples of our earlier Presidents. They who repose faith in the sincerity of the man, and love those good old days of simplicity and integrity, have, therefore, great and just cause for congratulation at this auspicious crisis—while those who are distrustful or skeptical need but calmly await the issues of the next four years. Surely, he who thinks with Washington, that we should never (avariciously) "quit our own, to stand on foreign soil"—with Jefferson, that the undue interference of Government stipendiaries with the free exercise of the elective franchise, is dangerous and totally hostile to the spirit of our institutions—he who reprobates, with Madison, the idea of an Administration's wielding its immense patronage with a view to perpetuate itself—he, finally, who entertains such enlarged and conservative views of the design of our *Constitution*, *must* truly make, what for so many years we have needed—A REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT. *We* firmly believe that the golden age of our country is to return again!

With proper forbearance, then, upon the part of our adversaries—with their co-operation—with the co-operation of all good and patriotic men, we predict and look forward to a peaceful and prosperous future. A country elevated far beyond the grovelling lust for extension and power—aggressive only in its efforts against injustice and corruption—looking inwardly to the welfare of its People, and not beyond the horizon's scope for Utopian schemes of territorial enlargement; this is the model Republic to which our hopes are directed, and to which our confident expectations tend.

INTERESTING CEREMONY.

The ceremony of the return of the Flag of the North Carolina Regiment, by Col. PAINE, to the Governor of the State, came off on Monday last, at 1 o'clock. There was quite a concourse of persons assembled.

Col. PAINE, supported by the Col. of the 35th Regiment and the officers of the Cossacks and Ringgold Artillery, delivered the Colors into the hands of the Adjutant General, to be deposited in the Military Archives of the State. His remarks were brief, appropriate and feeling. He paid the Regiment the highest commendation for their good order, excellent discipline, and patience under the rigid duties incident upon Camp-life.

The response of Gov. GRAHAM, was most happy. He alluded to the uncertain chances under which our brave Volunteers marched into the enemy's Country—spoke with pride of the reputation of the Regiment for efficiency and discipline, and concluded by highly and deservedly complimenting Colonel PAINE, for his individual exertions in elevating the character of his Regiment. The applause which followed this Address of Gov. GRAHAM'S, but re-echoed his own sentiments in pronouncing Col. PAINE an able, zealous and gallant Officer.

☞ It will be seen, by reference to the Governor's Proclamation in another column, that he has summoned the Electoral College to convene in this City, on Wednesday, the 6th of December.

☞ It commenced Snowing in this City on Saturday evening last, and continued until Sunday morning, covering the earth several inches.

☞ We can bear testimony to the excellency of the many delicacies to be found at the Establishment of Mr. JOHN KANE, having had ocular and feeling demonstration at our Sanctum, yesterday morning, to justify us in recommending them to the Epicure. See his Advertisement in this Paper.

ALEXANDRIA, Nov. 17—9 P. M.

We have full returns from all the counties in Virginia but 11, in which Polk had 60 majority over Clay, which leaves Taylor, according to our estimate but 443 to overcome to carry the State.

A dispatch received here from Richmond, informs us that it is reported there, originating in the Executive Chamber, that all the returns have been received, and that Taylor's majority in the State is 368.