

# THE NORTH CAROLINA STAR.

NORTH CAROLINA—Powerful in intellectual, moral and physical resources, the land of our sires and home of our affections.

RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 8, 1850.

NO. 20.

THOMAS J. LENAY, Editor.

LEONIDAS B. LENAY, Associate Editor.

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From the Hartford Convention. Pursuant to the previous call, the citizens of Old Mecklenburg District met in the Court House in this place on the 24th inst. in Convention, and organized by the selection of John Walker, Esq., as President, and E. C. Grier and J. L. Badger as Secretaries.

The President explained the object of the Convention to be in accordance with the published call, the appointment of delegates to represent the district in the National Convention, and accompanied the explanation with a few remarks appropriate to the occasion.

On motion, made and seconded, a committee of five were appointed to retire and prepare Resolutions expressive of the sense of the Convention in regard to the Slavery question.

The committee consisted of Messrs. Wm. Johnston, S. A. Davis, Wm. Myers, Jno. M. Long, Esq., and Dr. C. J. Fox.

On motion, J. L. Badger was added to the committee.

While the committee were out, Messrs. R. P. Ware and G. W. Caldwell made brief addresses touching the propriety of the Nashville Convention, and the reasons why this District should be represented there.

After Mr. Caldwell concluded, the committee having returned, reported through their chairman, Mr. Johnston, the following Preamble and Resolutions, Mr. J. secoping up the presentation of the report with a few felicitous remarks:

Resolved, That the proceedings of the Convention, which shall directly or indirectly deprive the citizens of any of the States of the right of emigrating with their slaves property into any of the Territories of the United States, and of exercising ownership over the same, while in said Territories, will be an act not only of gross injustice and wrong, but the exercise of power, contrary to the true meaning and spirit of the Constitution, and never contemplated by the framers thereof.

Resolved, That while we do not intend hereby to be understood as conceding that Congress has the power to prohibit the migration of slaves into any portion of the Territories of the United States, yet for the sake of preserving the peace, and promoting the perpetuity of the Union, we are willing that the basis of the Missouri Compromise should be adopted, in reference to the recently acquired Territory of New Mexico and California, by extending the line there agreed upon to the Pacific Ocean.

Resolved further, That in view of the foregoing, we approve of the propriety of the Nashville Convention, and that this Convention appoint Delegates, with an equal number of alternates to represent this District in said Convention.

Mr. Johnson was followed by J. H. Wilson, Esq., who opposed the Nashville Convention and the passage of the Resolutions.

After Mr. W. sat down he was replied to by J. L. Badger in support of them.

General John A. Young, offered the following Resolutions as an amendment to the committee's, supported by some remarks applicable to them and his position:

Resolved, That the continued efforts of the Abolitionists of the Northern States, and of a portion of their representatives in Congress, to deprive the citizens of this State of their constitutional rights, and to deprive them of the right of emigrating with their slaves property into any of the Territories of the United States, and of exercising ownership over the same, while in said Territories, will be an act not only of gross injustice and wrong, but the exercise of power, contrary to the true meaning and spirit of the Constitution, and never contemplated by the framers thereof.

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others evincing a disposition to assist from them, into the Union and the South dangerous and hostile measures.

Resolved, That while we are always ready, freely to assist in every proper manner, aggression upon our Constitutional rights from any quarter, we are equally ready to appreciate the patriotism, which regards personal convenience as subordinate to the maintenance of the Union, which would involve us in a common ruin.

Resolved, That we regard the action of the Legislature of some, and the public opinion expressed in various other Northern States as reliable evidence of sufficient patriotism to render our interests secure under the guarantee of the constitution and national compromise.

Resolved, That in view of these facts, we do not deem it necessary or expedient to send delegates to the Nashville Convention.

Messrs. J. M. Long, Wm. Johnston, Wm. Myers and G. W. Caldwell severally replied to the remarks of Mr. Wilson and General Young, and supporting the Resolutions.

The question was called but withdrawn to allow Mr. Wilson to make some remarks in explanation. When Mr. W. had concluded, the question upon Gen. Young's amendment resumed, and was voted down with but a few approving voices in its favor.

The question was now called for upon the committee's resolutions, and being put, they passed by an overwhelming majority, there being but few dissenters.

On motion, made and seconded, it was Resolved, that the President at his discretion, name the Delegates, by authority of the Convention appointed. This was done to facilitate the progress of the meeting, as it was getting very late, and in order also to secure able representatives who would be certain to attend Nashville.

On motion, seconded the thanks of the Convention were tendered to the President for the able and courteous manner with which he had discharged his duties.

On motion it was resolved that the papers of Charlotte be requested to publish these proceedings, and that the Raleigh papers and other State papers friendly to the objects it had in view, be requested to copy.

Resolved, That copies of these proceedings be sent to the Representative from this district in Congress, and to our Senators, with a request that they lay them before their respective Houses.

On motion the Convention adjourned sine die.

JOHN WALKER, Ch'm.  
J. L. BADGER, Sec'taries.

The following letters were received among others, from distinguished gentlemen who were invited to attend the Convention. They are all that we have room for at present, and will richly repay a perusal.

MESSRS CLEMENS AND VENABLE'S LETTER.

WASHINGTON, April 8th, 1850.

GENTLEMEN—Having received an invitation from you, to be present at a meeting of the citizens of your district without distinction of party, on the 23d of this month, for the purpose of appointing Delegates to the Nashville Convention, we write in a reply, although our invitations were separately received. We can never read it do this, because we cordially approve of the object which you have in view.

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to us by those we represent. We are gratified that the people are taking the matter into their own hands, and taken it out of the hands of President makers and peace hunters. If we can settle it honorably we will do so. If we dared to make any other adjustment we know that our constituents will disown us, and our acts. Be pleased gentlemen to accept for yourselves personally as well as for those whom you represent the highest considerations of regard for

Your obt' serv'ts,  
J. CLEMENS, Alabama.  
A. B. VENABLE, N. C.

Messrs Wm. Johnson, Wm. Lander,  
G. W. Caldwell, W. B. Myers,  
John Walker and H. B. Hammond, Committee.

MR. SHEPARD'S LETTER.

ELIZABETH CITY, April 6th, 1850.

MESSRS. LANDER, JOHNSON & Co.  
Committee.

GENTLEMEN—I have received your letter of the 26th inst. in relation to the rights of the citizens of the old Mecklenburg district, to be present at a Convention to be held in Charlotte, on the 23d inst. for the purpose of appointing delegates to the Nashville Southern Convention. I regret that business of an imperative character will compel me to go in another direction about that time, and I would be present with you on so important an occasion. Old Mecklenburg has claims upon the patriotic heart of a North Carolinian, which will entitle her to a much longer prominence than all other venerable forms: ancient. I am glad to see the children of that cradle of American Independence are about sending deputies to the Nashville Convention. I wish the whole State would follow their example, I see many reasons in favor of such a measure and no solid objection to it. Association for the purpose of effecting an important object, is one of the wisest discoveries of modern civilization: it must be attributed, most of the improvements of our times. This matter is very well understood at the North, but I am sorry to say but little known or appreciated at the South. At the North, whenever it is intended to act with efficiency upon the general Government individuals know well how to combine or associate together, that their action may be felt. This we have seen every year, whenever the policy of the Government has come in conflict with any great Northern interest, immediately that interest combines and associates together, and speaks to the Government in such a manner, that its voice must be heard and listened to. It was but the other day the great iron interest of Pennsylvania, and other States, assembled at Pittsburgh, and uttered their grievances; a few months previous, delegates were flocking from the North and West to St. Louis, to force upon the Government a mammoth scheme of a rail road to California, and a short time previously, Mr. Polk's veto upon the harbor bill roused an indignation North and West, which assembled in Convention at Chicago and spoke in a voice that was neither misunderstood nor unheeded. For this reason, should they own affairs and interests, these people were not charged with designing dissension, or any other object, and yet, when the great slaveholding interests of this nation, the most defenseless in its nature and character, is attacked by an unprovoked and malignant foe, rapidly effecting the overthrow of the Government, the act of dissension is unjustly and unfairly raised against it, because it proposes to associate and consult for its better protection and defence. The National Intelligencer, a paper which circulates extensively throughout the South, with a view of throwing odium on the Southern Convention and distracting the minds of the Southern people, has lately been running a parallel between that and the Hartford Convention of inevitable notoriety, and concludes its article by preferring the patriotism of the latter. These gentlemen in their great desire to apologize for the Hartford Convention and prejudice the Southern people, forget to mention that the odium attached to the Hartford Convention arose exclusively from the fact that at the time of its assembling, the country was engaged in a desperate conflict with the most powerful Nation of the World, a conflict the issue of which was extremely doubtful, and a brave and generous public thought and yet think, that whatever might be the peculiar grievances of the New England people, the midst of the din of battle and struggle for existence, was not a proper time to dispute with their friends.

And if I do not mistake the patriotic and generous character of the Southern people, the time will come when those who oppose the Nashville Convention, will be regarded as not sufficiently sensitive to the honor and interest of their Country. The time proposed for the assembling of the Nashville Convention, is one of profound peace, the Government is all powerful, the slaveholding interest is scattered over a great empire, the world is at peace, the prejudices of the world are against it, and if those whose duty it is to guard and protect it, dare not rise in its aid and support it, it is inevitable. Our people are already and justly attached to the Union of the States, its value is incalculable, and in my judgment the assembly of a Southern Convention, so far from embarrassing the Union, will tend immeasurably to strengthen it, by convincing the Northern disorganizers that we are united and determined to resist all unconstitutional assaults upon our rights and property. History teaches us that the best way to invite aggression and insult is to exhibit weakness and dissension.

In the language of Mr. Webster in his late patriotic speech, "I am bound to believe that if the worthy gentlemen, meet at Nashville in convention their object will be to adopt constitutional measures."

If there is any interest in this country which particularly needs that protection and security which is derived from association, and combination, that interest is the Slaveholding. One planter generally resides isolated upon his plantation; they are a confiding race of people, have comparatively little intercourse with the rest of the world; the danger of their present situation is, as Mr. Webster said of Texas, "a misapprehension may be taken upon them. It is in consequence of their heretofore indifference, that the slave question has been so badly managed in Congress that they have exercised a proper vigilance it never would have been mixed up with the more party politics of the day, we could now be agitated on the floor of Congress, there being the union with dissension. I am glad to see your letter that you propose to hold a Convention composed of both the great political parties it will be a sad day for North

Carolina, when the ordinary mindness and narrowness of party shall mark the discussions and action on this subject.

In conclusion of this hastily written letter, I would say that having but little direct pecuniary interest in the question of slavery and with no desire for public life, I think I can view this subject as dispassionately as most men, and from all the considerations I have been able to give it, I am decidedly of opinion that unless the people themselves who are interested in this question, do associate and combine for their own protection, the day is not far distant when an irresponsible government actuated by a false philanthropy, will reduce the Southern planting interest to the same condition of poverty and helplessness, which England's miracle has entailed upon her West India Colonies.

Should the Convention assemble in Nashville, and produce no other result it will unite the South, and strengthen the influence of those Southern gentlemen in Congress who are contending for the rights of their constituents, and compel the North that upon this question, we know no party but that of our own Country.

Respectfully, Yours obt