

Read and Ponder.
On the 10th of October, 1859, the "Working Men's Association of Wake County," a most intelligent and respectable body of citizens, issued to the people of the State, an address, in which they portrayed the burdensome inequality of our present tax system, and furnish the most irrefragable arguments why it should be changed. The Association is composed of tax-payers belonging to all parties, and was organized to obtain, if possible, simple justice in the laying of taxes. Demanding that slaves and lands shall be taxed *ad valorem*, or according to value. We furnish the following extract from one of the pamphlets of the Association, which we have in our possession:

"The last tax bill has fully convinced us of the great and increasing importance of this subject, and the urgent necessity of so reforming the system that the burdens should be equally borne. Of its importance we are satisfied that you are also. For the oppressive inequality and injustice of the system we invite your attention to the following illustrations from the last published report from the Comptroller of public accounts:

By reference to Mr. Brogden's report to the last General Assembly, it will be seen that the aggregate valuation of 26,133,063 acres of land, listed under the revenue bill of 1856-7 for taxation, was \$36,075,771—or about \$3.29 per acre. This, added to the valuation of town property, gives a total of \$97,842,481, which paid into the State Treasury, as taxes thereon, the sum of \$14,462,159 (omitting fractions). The aggregate of taxes paid by the polls listed at the same time was \$108,074, of which black polls paid \$75,462, and free polls \$32,588. The number of black polls given in was 150,822—namely, by the way, greatly below that returned in the Census of 1850; according to which, there were in the State, in June, 1850, about 164,000 taxable black polls. The black polls returned in 1856, at a low valuation, were worth, in round numbers, \$1,050,000. And if our slave population has increased in the same ratio since 1850 that it did during the ten years previous thereto, (and there is every reason to believe the increase, from many causes, has been much greater,) the total number of slaves in the State at this time would be 338,348. This would leave 157,615 slaves untaxed, worth, at a low estimate, \$12,567,800, making the aggregate valuation of the slave property in the State \$248,567,800. This amount of property paid into the State Treasury in 1856, for the protection of negroes, which, in our opinion, is its duplicate capacity of supporting persons or objects that throw around any other species of property by our laws, the sum of \$75,462, a little more than half the amount paid by \$97,842,481 worth of real estate. Is there any reason why such a discrimination should be made between these two species of property? Why is it that 1,000 worth of slaves should pay, as it did under the tax bill of 1856-7, \$1.50, while \$1,000 worth of slave property paid only 50 cents? In our opinion there is no just and good reason for such inequality; if there is, we have yet to hear it advanced.

"Again: The tax on interest received, amounted to \$76,774. This sum is paid on about \$3,989,000 of money loaned. This is seen that our system requires \$31,982,000 loaned, or otherwise bearing interest, to pay a larger amount of taxes into the Treasury than the \$248,567,800 worth of slave property. Is there any cause why \$1,000 in money at interest, restricted by our law in its productivity to \$80 per annum, should be made to pay \$2.40 for the production it enjoys, while \$1,000 in slave property, unrestricted in its production, pays only \$1,000 in land paid \$1.50? Under our Bill of Rights, no man or set of men are entitled to exclusive or separate emoluments or privileges from their neighbors, except for good and just reasons. Why cannot this just, fundamental principle be extended in its application likewise to property, another important element constituting a State?

"Again: The profits of capital invested in steam vessels, in stocks of any kind, in shares of any incorporated or trading company, whether in or out of the State, bonds of another State, and land, were, in 1856, \$211,943. This tax was collected on about \$24,000,000 of profits. In 1859, according to the last Census, there was in North Carolina more than \$0,000,000 of annual production, arising from manufactures, mining and mechanic arts, at a rate of 54 per cent, or over \$3,000,000. We have no laws, from 1858, to estimate the increase of this annual production since that time, though we know it has been considerable. Why our legislators excepted this very considerable amount of profit from paying taxes we cannot tell. If the profits on the annual production of our State in various ways is to be taxed, and it surely ought, why not tax those of all productive investments?

"Again: Under our peculiar system, and it is without precedent, peculiar in many respects, there was paid into the State Treasury the sum of \$12,379 by a portion of the labor and industry of our citizens. This tax on the energies, enterprise and brains of the community, which should receive in its development the fostering care and protection of our rulers so far as possible, amounts to about one-sixth of the sum paid, as we have shown, by \$248,567,800 worth of one species of property. We are satisfied that this distinctive feature in our revenue system is so unjustly oppressive, so utterly subservient of every reasonable and established principle of political economy, and so openly at war with the best interests of our State, that it requires no illustration in detail to convince you that a reform at least in this respect is imperatively demanded. Still, that you may more fully comprehend its injustice and inequality, let us for a moment look to its operation. Every citizen except ministers of the Gospel and our Judges, (and why exempt the latter, when all other State officers are taxed?) whose annual income from their labor is over \$500, paid, as a tax, 1 per cent. on their respective receipts. The clerk, the doctor, the mechanic, the lawyer, the overseer, your county officers, every one, though by untiring industry and virtuous economy they may be barely able to support their families, paid into the Treasury of the State \$1 upon every hundred dollars received. The foreman in the workshop, if the receipt of \$500 as wages, paid, besides his poll tax, five dollars to the sheriff; while his neighbor, owning ten a case mechanics at work in the same shop at the yearly wages of \$2,500 or more, paid to the Sheriff only five dollars and his poll tax. The overseer, with 20 hands under him, making for his employer over 100 bags of cotton, worth \$5,000, if receiving six hundred dollars, paid six dollars, and the employer, for that which produced him \$5,000 paid ten dollars. The employees of our different Railroad Companies each pay 1 per cent. on their receipts, if they amount to \$500; the individual stockholders, though they may receive 6 or 7 per cent. on their investment, amounting in the aggregate to a large sum, pay, with few exceptions, nothing. The clerk, in the receipt of \$700 per annum, paid seven dollars to the State; his employer with \$100,000 of State bonds in his safe, yielding him \$6,000 per annum, paid nothing. These illustrations might be indefinitely multiplied. In 1854, our Executive,

time will come when they will be ready to "disturb the compromises of the Constitution" which they are now so careful of, and so alter it as to place negro property upon an exact footing of equality as far as bearing the burdens of taxation is concerned, with the rest of the property of the State. Again, with what reason can these Democrats speak of a measure as "unjust," and yet, by using the word "premature," say in substance that when in their opinion the proper time arrives they will resort to it, "unjust" as it may be; and further, we ask, why would the measure be more unjust now than when they will be ready to advocate it, some two, four, six, eight, or ten years hence? Are not these men on the horns of a dilemma, from which there is no chance of escape for them? But once more, if there can be a time when equality of taxation can be justly resorted to, it is this very present time, when, for the purpose of meeting the State Debt, taxes are in the course of constant and rapid increase, and this is the time when equality of taxation would stop the just complaints of those who protest against the unjust discrimination made in favor of slave property, by the present Constitution. But to go on—the latter part of the resolution proposes to raise revenue by taxes which will bear as equally as possible upon all the subjects of taxation within the limits of the Constitution.

Further: Gov. Ellis makes a studied effort to place "Black Republicans, Freesoilers and Oppositionists" upon the same footing, as holding the same opinions and advocating the same measures. If there were no insinuated falsehood in this of which the *Gentleman* should be ashamed, there is impolicy in it, of which the Governor ought not to have been guilty; for, if he is believed at all by the Black Republicans and Freesoilers, the effect must be to encourage them with the false and delusive hope that the Oppositionists of North Carolina are their friends, which no man with either patriotism or honesty can assert or believe.

Once more, Gov. Ellis said—"The ancient office seekers who met here on the 22d of February last, nominated two candidates for the Presidency from this State. There are already in nomination for this office, by this party, sixty-six candidates, and yet they say the Democrats want all the offices."

Surely no man who heard Gov. Ellis was quite so ignorant as not to know that this assertion about 66 candidates was a fiction. It is about one-sixteenth part true, that is, four persons are already in nomination, viz: Messrs. Graham, Hunt, Bell, and Crittenden.

And finally, (for the present,) Gov. Ellis said—"That party also advocates internal improvements, and yet they select a man to ennoble and defend their platform who has invariably voted against every railroad proposed to be built during his term of service in the Legislature."

We have not now a copy of the Journal to search out Mr. Pool's votes, but the Editor of the Western Advocate, who attended both the two last Legislatures as a Reporter for the press, and therefore had peculiar facilities for knowing, has a copy and says—

"It has been said that his record as to the West is very bad; upon examination we learn from the journals that he voted for the bill to allow county subscriptions to the French Broad Road, that he voted for the bill to amend the charter of the Wilmington and Rutherford Road, that he also voted for the Western Extension bill."

If the Governor of the State thus sets an example of misrepresentations of facts, what may we not expect from the less exalted organs of the party? The fountain being foul, the stream will not be pure.—*Fay, Observer.*

Gov. Ellis's Speech.
It is seldom that we have read a more undignified and less truthful harangue than that delivered by the Governor of North Carolina to his party friends who had just nominated him for re-election. We copy it in another column.

As a specimen of dignity, see the very small and twice repeated assertion that the Opposition Convention which lately met in Raleigh was "a band of superannated, disappointed politicians," "ancient office seekers," &c. What a pitiful exhibition of spite, against a body of two hundred and fifty respectable citizens of North Carolina, who had assembled to exercise the dearest rights of freemen, and who would probably have escaped the denunciations of Gov. Ellis, and been regarded by him as marvellous proper men, if they had assembled to nominate him. Let the reader pass over in his mind the numerous eminent men who were prominent actors in that Convention, who have served their country in public and bear unblemished reputations in private, and then let him say if such men were fit subjects for the low and little aspersions of the Governor of the State, merely because they happen to differ from him in politics, and were assembled to nominate a gentleman to oppose him for the high office which he fills. It seems to us that a gentleman of any delicacy of feeling or nobleness of heart would treat a body assembled for such an object with most scrupulous courtesy, even supposing its members to be less deserving than they were of the respect of the Governor of the State. His sneers at those men of age and experience and wisdom and patriotism, remind us of a passage in the Book of Kings, where it is recorded that a parcel of irreverent "little children," (the "Young America" of that day,) mocked the prophet Elisha, and said unto him, Go up, thou bald head; go up, thou bald head." Before the Summer ends, our present Governor, who thus sneers at age, may meet, politically, a fate like theirs.

Further: Gov. Ellis makes a studied effort to place "Black Republicans, Freesoilers and Oppositionists" upon the same footing, as holding the same opinions and advocating the same measures. If there were no insinuated falsehood in this of which the *Gentleman* should be ashamed, there is impolicy in it, of which the Governor ought not to have been guilty; for, if he is believed at all by the Black Republicans and Freesoilers, the effect must be to encourage them with the false and delusive hope that the Oppositionists of North Carolina are their friends, which no man with either patriotism or honesty can assert or believe.

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As a specimen of the recklessness of truth in this harangue, see the assertion that the opposition party, "mainly consists" of superannated, disappointed politicians. The party mainly consists, as all parties do, as every candid man will admit, of young and middle aged, not superannated men; and so far from any party in North Carolina mainly consisting of disappointed politicians, it would scarcely be true to assert that one in fifty of any party in North Carolina had ever aspired to political distinction. We are not among those who ever asked or desired or expected office, and we think that, in the main, "the post of honor is the private station;" but it will become one who, like Gov. Ellis, has been so often a candidate and has lived upon the public ever since he grew to manhood, to indulge in any reproach of those who, like himself, have aspired to political honors or emoluments.

Again: Gov. Ellis says, "He regretted that the grave body of antiquated politicians and office seekers, which assembled a short time since, had said that they perceived no difference between Black Republicans and Democrats." The Governor might have spared his regrets: no such thing was said; it is a fiction of his own.

Latest from Mexico.
Pensacola, April 6.
The latest dates from Vera Cruz informs us that Miramon had commenced withdrawing his forces from before the walls of that city on the morning of the 21st of March. Juarez's forces were so nearly out of powder that it was believed that if Miramon had remained but a little longer he could have captured the city.

On the evening of the 23d March the steamship *Indiana* brought to the anchorage of the city a bark, which she had captured to the Southward, in the neighborhood of Alvarado.

The bark bore Spanish colors, and was professedly bound for Galveston, Texas. She gave as an excuse for being found so near a Mexican port that her compass was in a disordered condition. She is thereby suspected of being the third vessel mentioned in the intercepted despatches of Gen. Miramon, as having supplies for that General.

The steamship *Indiana* has been purchased by Juarez, and placed in the service of the government.

What's the Difference?
A large portion of the Democratic party South say that Douglas is "no better than Seward;" whilst the Nashville Union and American calls him a "political gambler." Now we would like to know the difference in supporting such a man as Douglas and a professed Black Republican. The only difference we can see is that Douglas would give the spoils of office to Democrats, whilst Seward or any other Republican would not. Is not that the only difference? We tell the honest yeomanry of the Democratic party that their leaders have no other motive in governing their political actions than the spoils of office, and ninetieths of them could be bought up any day for a consideration.—*Richmond Whig.*

Statesville, Friday, April 13, 1860.
Our Terms.
THE "IREDELL EXPRESS" is published on the following terms: from which there will be no deviation. Subscribers therefore will govern themselves accordingly. 1 copy one year, if paid in advance, 2 25; if paid within 6 months, 2 00; if not paid till the end of the subscription year, 3 00.

Justice Demands that—Like Values in Slaves Should Pay Equal Taxes with Lands and other Taxable Property.

PEOPLE'S TICKET.
FOR GOVERNOR,
JOHN POOL,
OF PASQUOTANK.

Democrats' Opinions of Democracy.
The following is what Democrats have said of Buchanan-Douglas-Ellis Democracy—as it was, is, and as it ever will be, so long as the party shall maintain power. We invite the attention of honest Democrats to examine the record. Not a word of it was uttered by any but Democrats, who had become disgusted with the corruptions of their party.

Senator Iverson, of Georgia, speaking of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, and its consequences, says—
"The loss of Kansas was the legitimate and inevitable fruit of the Kansas-Nebraska Act."
* * * Even Gov. Pierce put over Kansas a whole batch of Free Soil Governors, and the present Administration has followed the example of its illustrious predecessor. Thus Kansas was lost to the South."
Sen. Sumner, on the floor of Congress, said—
"I do not believe to-day, there is a corrupt Government under the heavens as that of the United States."
The Charleston "Mercury" says—
"To conclude the whole matter—National Democracy is corrupt, vacillating and false; it wears the garb of sanctity, that hideous deformities may be concealed; it woos but to ruin and wins but to destroy."
Ex-Gov. Foye, of Mississippi, says:
"In fact the Democratic party now in existence, is dishonest, corrupt and infective in the extreme, confessedly so. Party organs and party leaders openly avow it—the Washington "States" had repeatedly charged it, and had exposed the pecuniary frauds, and the whole of Government officials."
Gov. Wise, of Virginia, says—
"I would not protect them (the South) from the author of Kansas Nebraska Act, from the false protection of Non-Interference," * * * from the Leconte policy which had not the wisdom even of Esop's cock in the fable—from the compromise of English Bill which stripped us of every particle of prestige which we had left. * * * In the South—is any portion of our country in a situation to rush into war—was invited by the President with three European and five American powers? Are we to be a grand Consolidated, elective North and South imperialism?"
Hon. Pierre Soule, of Louisiana, says—
"We must to disentangle ourselves from the thralldom in which we have been kept for years by an unprincipled gang of political speculators and blacklegs. * * * That the time has come for us to assume that position is made manifest by the disgust with which the more patient and enduring in our midst have witnessed the scandalous and revolting corruption and foul dealing introduced in our party proceedings, under the direction and management of the few miscreants who claim absolute control over it."
The Charleston "Mercury" again says—
"The existing organization calling itself the Government of the United States, with its Abolition agitation and demagogues, although no more like the government established by the Constitution than the Roman Republic under Augustus Caesar, will struggle hard for its perpetuation. Nothing but the instinct of self preservation, or the higher impulse of liberty in the Southern people can overthrow it. But the contest is inevitable—for it has been gathering for thirty years."
At a Democratic meeting in New Orleans last year, the following was adopted, viz:—
"Holding in peculiar detestation the employment of Federal patronage and Federal power, to influence or control political results in the several States in the Union, for the benefit of individuals or of factions, we pro-

The proceedings in Congress, with the exception of the developments making by the Investigator Committees, have little of interest. Mr. Buchanan wrote a violent protest against the authority of Congress to investigate his agency in misapplying the public funds for electioneering and other improper purposes, but Congress regards it not, and proceeds in the regular discharge of an important duty to the country.

One item, the printing of post office blanks, seven hundred thousand dollars, it is proved, was paid to favorites more than the work was worth! We will give the testimony in this case next week.

A bill has passed the House, to prohibit polygamy in the territories.

The Spring Term of the Superior Court for Fredell, Judge J. W. Osborne, presiding, is in session at Statesville this week. The charge delivered by his Honor to the Grand Inquest of the County, was able and comprehensive. The State docket was cleared entirely on Monday, and the Civil docket will be finished by Thursday evening, perhaps, owing to the rapidity with which his Honor dispatches business. Judge Osborne will do credit to the Bar.

Hot and Dry.
The thermometer during the fortnight of the present week was up to summer heat. Monday, the thermometer ranged as high as 86 in the shade, while a stiff wind was blowing from the South. The high winds that prevail daily has rendered the earth, very parched and dry, so much so that corn-planting has been quite suspended by many farmers.

Rev. Daniel Worth was tried in Randolph County last week on the charge of circulating incendiary documents and using seditious language. He was found guilty, and sentenced to imprisonment for 12 months. A new trial was asked for and refused, and the counsel for the prisoner took an appeal to the Supreme Court. The Judge offered to admit the prisoner to bail in the sum of \$2,000, but being unable to give security for his appearance, he was remanded to jail.

The Raleigh Standard suffers itself to be terribly exercised and frightened by the ghost of Know Nothingism, once in a while, like a horse half blind starts at shadows cast by the light of the moon. Several times, the Standard has published what it says are the first and second Degrees of the Ritual, but pertinaciously refuses to publish the Third Degree. Why is this? We would much like to see the Third published also, that the people may know how to appreciate the truly conservative and Union sentiments contained therein, and understand what the objects of the Know Nothingism were, aright. Will the Standard comply?

Examination at Olin High School.
The annual Examination of Olin High School, will take place on the 22, and 23d, May, next.

Col. B. R. Moore, of Salisbury, will deliver the Annual Address.

Rev. Thomas E. Mann, of the N. C. Conference, will preach the annual Sermon before the two Literary Societies.

Blackwood.
We have received from L. Scott & Co. the above named periodical for March; it is one of a series of foreign periodicals published by them, and affords at a much less cost than is charged on the leather. See advertiser's.

Hon. J. M. Leach will accept of thanks for sending us several Congressional Speeches that have been made by various members, chiefly Democrats.

Thanks to Mrs. O. Gillespie for a salary of fine lettuce sent our family on Tuesday.

In what does the Governor's (Ellis) aristocracy consist, Mr. Express?

Fay Courier.
For taxing the land of the man in moderate circumstances, and exempting from equal taxation the slaves of the rich. Is not that a good sign for an aristocrat, Mr. Courier?

We will publish the List of Premiums offered by the Mecklenburg Agricultural Society for their next Fair, when we can obtain a copy. The paper containing it was abstracted from our office.

Supposed to be Killed.
As the mail train was coming up from Weldon yesterday evening, a man is supposed to have been killed in the following manner: The train was approaching Tar River bridge, when the engineer saw a man on the opposite end, but, of course, thought he would get off before the train reached him. Instead of getting off, however, the man stepped to one side and backed himself up against the railing, or wall of the bridge, supposing that the train would miss him; but unfortunately for him, his head was struck by the mail coach, it is supposed he was instantly killed. The train being, behind time, did not stop for the matter to be investigated.—*Raleigh Press.*

Medical Examiners.
We see by advertisement in the Raleigh Standard that the Board of Medical Examiners of North Carolina will meet in Raleigh on the first Monday in May for the purpose of examining candidates for the practice of medicine. The act of the Legislature authorizing this Board provides that from and after the 15th of April, 1859, no person shall practice medicine or surgery, or in any case prescribe for the cure of disease for fee or reward, unless he shall have been first licensed to do so by the Board of Medical Examiners; though persons practicing in violation of the Act are not held guilty of a misdemeanor, but they cannot recover their bills by law.—*Charlotte Democrat.*

Railroad Spirit in Alexander.
We learn that the citizens of Alexander, unlike the farmers of Fredell, feel a deep interest to secure the A. T. & O. Railroad to pass to Taylorsville, and have subscribed \$25,000 in stock of the Company and will increase their subscription to \$75,000, as much as shall be necessary to build the road to Taylorsville. We can but admire their wisdom and forecast of our neighbors although their gain will prove to be our loss.

We have received the N. C. Printer for March. As usual the Planter is well supplied with a fund of valuable information for farmers. Price \$1 a year. Address: the Publisher, at Raleigh.

Capt. Campbell and Lieut. Hill, of the U. S. Army, who had been sojourning among their friends in this place since their return from Utah, have received orders to join their commands and proceeded hence.

How Heenan and Sayers make their money—Hand over fist.
Why is killing bees like a confession. Because you unbar your...