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AN ACT.

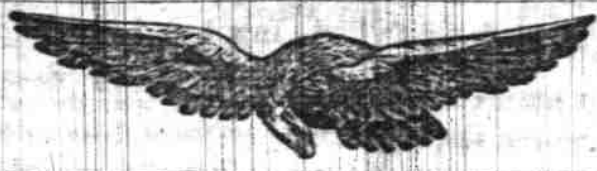
TO IMPROVE THE NAVIGATION OF THE YADKIN RIVER.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful to open Books of Subscription, at Lexington, under the direction of J. P. Mabry, William Harris, and Joseph H. Thompson, or any two of them; at Salisbury, under the direction of John L. Shaver, William S. McCay, and Joseph F. Chambers, or any two of them; at Mocksville, under the direction of Braxton Bailey, James McElroy, and Alexander Hanes, or any two of them; at Huntsville, under the direction of Richard C. Puryear, Nicholas L. Williams, and Francis Clingman, or any two of them; at Rockford, under the direction of Francis K. Armstrong, Mark York, and James R. Dodge, or any two of them; at Wilkesborough, under the direction of Sidney Stokes, Anderson Mitchell, and James Gwynn, or any two of them; for receiving Subscriptions for improving the navigation of the Yadkin River, to an amount not less than Thirty Thousand Dollars, nor more than Three Hundred Thousand, which subscriptions shall be made personally, or by power of Attorney, in shares of fifty dollars each, and that the said Books shall be opened, on the first day of February next, and be kept open till the first day of May next, and on the second Monday of the said month of May, there shall be a General Meeting of the Subscribers at Lexington aforesaid, and the Managers aforesaid, or any three of them, shall give notice of such meeting in one or more papers published on the Town of Salisbury, one month at least, before the day appointed for that purpose, and such meeting shall be continued from day to day until the business is finished; and the Managers aforesaid, shall then and there lay before such meeting the Books kept by them, containing a statement of said subscriptions, and if the sum of three hundred thousand dollars aforesaid, shall not have been subscribed, then the meeting aforesaid, or a majority thereof, if they think proper, may direct any three of the Managers aforesaid to continue to receive subscriptions of Stock at such times and places as may be designated by said meeting, until the said sum of three hundred thousand dollars shall have been subscribed, in such other sum over and above the said thousand dollars as said meeting may specify: Provided, The same does not exceed three hundred thousand dollars, and the President and Directors, to be constituted as hereinafter provided, shall immediately after the said first meeting, and afterwards from time to time, as often as the same shall, by new subscriptions become necessary, make a list of the subscribers, with the sums subscribed by each person, and return the same under their hands, or under the hands of any three of them to the office of the Secretary of the State of North Carolina, there to be received.

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

BRUNER & JAMES, Editors & Proprietors.

"KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR IS SAFE."



RULES. DO THIS, AND LIBERTY Gen'l Harrison.

NEW SERIES, NUMBER 40, OF VOLUME III.

SALISBURY, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1847.

any person or persons, on behalf of the Company, to open and improve the Navigation of Yadkin River, from the Town of Wilkesborough to the South Carolina line, by Canals, Locks, or Sluices, from place to place, and from time to time, upon such terms as they shall think fit, and out of the said Capital, or other monies of the Company, pay for making and repairing all works necessary for the said Navigation, and also for building Boats and employing hands for the purpose of Navigating said River, and also to appoint a Treasurer, Clerk, and all such other Officers, Managers and Servants, as they shall think requisite, and also to agree for their wages, settle and pay their accounts, and at their pleasure to remove all or any of them, and appoint others in their place, and also to establish rules of proceeding, and generally to transact all the business of the Company, in the intervals between the General Meetings of the same, and any General Meeting of the proprietors may allow the said President and Directors, such sum of money as the said General Meeting may think a reasonable compensation for their trouble.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, Office of Secretary of State. I, William Hill, Secretary of State and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an Act of the General Assembly of 1846-7, drawn off from the original which is on file in this Office. Given under my hand this 14th day of January, 1847. WM. HILL, Secretary of State.

COMMODORE PERRY'S PLAN.

The N. Y. Evening Post publishes a letter from its Washington correspondent, giving a plan for the future prosecution of the war recommended by Commodore Perry, which is said to have been spoken of with very general approbation in Washington. We give the following extract from the correspondent's letter: "A few words will suffice to make it plain. Abandon all the expensive sanguinary, and doubtful projects of further invasion. So far as regards the interior of Mexico; let us content ourselves with the occupation of the provinces already conquered, or so much of them as we may intend to keep as an 'indemnification' for the war.—On the other hand, let us take immediate possession of all her ports, both on the Gulf and on the Pacific, and occupy them as conquered territory, till she shall come to just and honorable terms of peace. Open them all to a free commerce, first placing in them collectors of our own, and establishing a suitable tariff a specific duties by means of which we shall levy, from the Mexican nation itself, a revenue fully adequate to cover all the expenses, naval and military, of such occupation. In regard to Yucatan, which is constantly blowing hot and cold between Mexico and ourselves, compel that province at once to its election between the two. If it shall abide by the fate of the former, include its ports likewise in this system, and in either case extend a cord of military occupations across the isthmus which connects it with Mexico, so as to cut off the Mexicans from the supplies (chiefly of the indispensable article of salt) which they now derive from the cunning and double Yucatecos. When we have our enemy thus shut in on all sides, let us hold him so, like a froward child shut up in a closet, or held firmly and patiently by the arms, till he comes to his senses, begs pardon, and promises to be good. The beauty of this plan is, that Mexico herself will have to pay its whole expense, while at the same time our own people and commerce will be greatly benefited by it. It will be idle for her to prohibit the further diffusion throughout the country, of the goods thus introduced into her ports. They will circulate as certainly and almost as freely as though they had passed regularly through Mexican instead of American custom-houses. The number of ports on the Gulf which ought to be thus occupied is about eleven, namely—Matamoros, Sotola Marina, Tampico, Tuxpan, Vera Cruz, Alvarado, Guasacalcos, Tabasco, Laguna, Campeachy, and Sisal; of these, Matamoros, Tampico, Tabasco, (or Frontera) and Laguna, are already ours. The rest can easily be taken; and with the support of the navy, as easily kept.—About five thousand men will serve to take and garrison the towns; and a dozen small ships, with half a dozen small steamers for the coast service, armed with two heavy guns each, will be all the naval force required.—This force could be bought for little more than the cost of a frigate, and maintained on the coast at less than half the expense, and with more than ten times the efficiency of the present squadron in that quarter.

ANOTHER ENGLISH VIEW OF AMERICA.

From the Liverpool Journal Dec. 5. The war in America grows suspicious. Santa Anna was publicly ushered into Mexico by the United States; and yet this dictator, by their permission, has done nothing to terminate hostilities, which neither party seems disposed to prosecute with becoming energy. General Taylor languishes in the field with an insufficient force, and Santa Anna, without either an army or money, talks big, but does nothing. It is not unreasonable to suspect a juggle here; but we can better excuse it, since it, or something else, has reduced the horrors of war to a minimum. As we said last week, the United States must compel the Mexicans to adopt the means of securing peace. This must be the end of the war, sooner or later. In the meantime a political change has come over the Union. The moneyed interest has again asserted its influence, and democracy, which always implies the reverse of wealth, has sustained a defeat in the recent elections. Mr. Webster is spoken of as the next President, and Mr. Polk will have to sustain the mortification of governing through an adverse parliament. We are not disposed to apprehend anything worse from all this than a transference of power from one party to another.—The Tariff is not likely to be disturbed, for the American whigs, like the English Tories, may improve upon the policy of their opponents, and astonish alike friends and enemies by the extent of their love for Free Trade. This is the more likely, from their seeing now the advantage of Sir Robert Peel's measures to them and us. The most distant parts of the Union reveal unexpected stocks of bread stuffs, and the farmers pour down on the ports unheeded quantities for export to Great Britain and Ireland. Freedom of trade is here doubly blessed, and the glad population of Europe will rejoice that the new world teems with plenty to feed the old. The late harvest in America compensates for every deficiency here, and creates an active trade in shipping, and no doubt, in manufactures, for the demand being unexpected, may be regarded as a kind of sudden enrichment. The farmers on the Mississippi will be enabled to indulge the taste of their wives, sons, and daughters, in the gratifying productions of British industry. While the corn crop, however is large, the cotton crop is less promising. A positive deficiency is expected, and that deficiency will be the greater in consequence of the increased consumption in our mills. As yet, however, there is a want of certainty, and as cheap cotton is a blessing, we find relief in the remaining hope that the crop may turn out better than is expected. It is one of the evils of mal-government that its excesses call the people of the land from the pursuits which dignify and decorate the paths of peaceful life, to the duties demanded by self-preservation. A twelvemonth since the country and its people were safe and happy; politics, though always a duty, was then neither absorbing nor imperative. A year has, under this Administration, dragged us already into wars and rumors of wars, debts and the prospect of heavier debt, the loss of credit, the prospect of onerous taxation, the derangement of trade, the paralysis of enterprise, and the apprehension of darker calamities lowering from the future. In this crisis every individual shares the peril. There is not a freeman, a job, nor a hope in the community which is not party to the great struggle now pending in this country. At such a time the press has duties which, if it be fearless and faithful, it will not dare not, pretermit. The present, be it remembered, is not a struggle for the supremacy of any party or the elevation of any aspirant. The country is appealed to in relation to measures involving the prosperity of every American family. The rescue of the land, and its every-day domestic happiness, is now the business of the business man. The subjects pending before Congress, and the events passing in Mexico, involve the people more deeply and dangerously than they have been involved since the birthday of the Republic. And, though it might be more agreeable to us and to our readers to trifle and make merry, even while the land inscribes the fearful warning upon the wall, we cannot believe that we would thus redeem the pledge we gave to our patrons. The crisis has imposed high and solemn duties upon the independent and patriotic press of our country; we will not be found recreant to them.—[North American.

TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL.

The bill to authorize the appointment of a Lieutenant General to command the military forces of the United States during the war with Mexico was taken up for consideration, as in Committee of the Whole. Mr. BADGER then rose and said that the best return, he believed, he could make to the Senate for its kindness in adjourning yesterday in order to give him an opportunity to say what he had to say to-day, would be to proceed at once to the statement of those reasons which seemed to him to present an insuperable objection to the granting of that which the President of the United States asked of them, and which the bill upon the table proposed to grant. The proposal (said Mr. B.) is to appoint a commanding general, who, when commissioned as lieutenant general, shall command all the armies of the United States. If this bill, Mr. President, shall pass into a law, the proposed high office to be created by it must be filled either by the present general commanding the army, or by some junior officer of the army, or by some citizen to be taken from the walks of private life. In the first case, sir, I think it must be manifest, on a very little reflection, that the measure must prove entirely useless. The major general now commanding the army commands all the forces about him; his command extends over the whole district or department which the President of the United States has assigned or may assign to him; and a lieutenant general, though his title may be loftier, can do no more. The President of the U. States may assign to the present commanding major general of the army the whole, entire, and absolute control under him of all the military operations of the war, and he may assign, though he is not bound to assign, to a lieutenant general, to this officer with the title of lieutenant general, the same large and extensive authority. The President of the United States may confine the present senior major general of the army to a particular district, to a narrow command, or to a small body of troops; so can he confine the same officer elevated to the grade of lieutenant general; for, by the express provision of the constitution, by the inevitable necessity of the case, by whatever title he may be called, major general or lieutenant general, he is at last under the absolute control or direction of the President himself, who is the sole constitutional commander-in-chief. By changing, therefore, the designation of major general to lieutenant general, you do not enlarge his authority; for the chief command of the whole army is incident to no general, whatever his grade may be, unless when that army is collected together and acting as one body; and, when so collected and acting together, the chief command is incident to the senior officer, whether called lieutenant or major general. Not in the capacity of the officer to discharge with effect, to carry into successful results the duties assigned to him, in the smallest degree increased by a change of title or an elevation to a higher grade. The authority must come from the President of the United States. The capacity to carry into execution the duties assigned to him must depend upon the forces belonging to his command, upon the force opposed to him, and upon his personal qualifications—his genius to contrive, his skill to combine, and his energy to execute whatever enterprise the crisis of affairs may require. It seems to me, then, that nothing can be founded upon slighter grounds than the opinion, if it prevail at all, that the officer who is now the senior major general will be in any respect better enabled to discharge, with honor to himself and advantage to the country, the duties assigned him, by the simple operation of striking out major general from his commission, and inserting lieutenant general. But, sir, if the officer who is to fill this high place is not to be the present commanding general of the army, but some junior officer elevated over his head, I admit that this measure then ceases to be useless; it becomes mischievous; it loses its character of harmlessness, it is true, but it assumes one of gross injustice. It is, then, made the occasion for offering an open insult to a gallant officer whose life has been devoted to the service of his country; whose blood has been shed on her battle-fields; whose deeds of arms, during what has not inaptly been called the second war of independence, elicited eulogy from President Madison, thanks from Congress, and enthusiastic admiration from the whole people—a man whose generous humanity, high military qualities, and brilliant courage have earned for him, not only in this country, but throughout Europe, an honorable reputation, and who has contributed to elevate the American name. And if, instead of a junior officer from among that band of noble spirits who lead our arms, some one is to be taken from civil life, then, sir, involved in the same insult with their chief, we find all those gallant officers who fought at Palo Alto, at Resaca, at Fort Brown, and at Monterey—officers whose intrepidity is the theme of every tongue, the pride of every heart—officers who have shown themselves deserving of the highest honors, and who have been, some of them at least, elevated by your breverets—officers of whom it is not too much to say that they possess all the high qualities which have enabled either officers or soldiers in any service in the world. Sir, such unjust returns for noble services must inflict a pang of shame on noble and gallant and patriotic hearts—a return which no necessity can justify, and which, in my judgment, would stand as a foul blot upon the escutcheon of this great Republic. Sir, would this insult stop here? No, sir. It would inflict a pang upon the nerve that vibrates in every noble heart; and, my word for it, if such a law as this be passed—if a civilian be advanced over the heads of all those gallant spirits in our army to the chief command, not only would the brave officers and soldiers of our army, but even the very sutlers and followers of the camp, feel their cheeks tingle with indignation and shame at the affront offered to that body and its head, of which they were the humble retainers. Sir, there is not an instance in the history of this country which

can serve as a precedent, there is no instance which can justify such a thing, true, sir, that, in 1798, when the country was seeking for inferior powers and inferior titles for military defenses, was threatened with an inevitable war with the proud and most powerful nation of that day, the true that on that occasion the office of lieutenant general was established, and Washington was called under that designation to the command of all the armies of the country, sir, it was Washington who was called to that command; it was for Washington that the rank was established. Washington was in retirement, which he loved—his mind at ease and solace of domestic life, which he earned for himself by long and glorious service. Washington was called to that command by the people, by the army itself—called to take charge and direction of those great military operations. And, if he returned upon the active life; if he left the spot in which he had passed without interruption the few remaining days of his life, surely it was due to him, in due to that singular position of eminence and glory which he had occupied in this country. Yes, sir, it was due to him, who, as the first in war, was also first in peace; it was due to his character, to his pre-eminence throughout the whole breadth of this land; it was due to the proud position which he occupied in the civilized world; yes, it was due to him, at the call of his country, he surrendered his life and comfort, to appear once more upon the field of arms, that he should do it with a title corresponding in some degree with his vast and prior merits. Sir, the state of things is now changed, we have no Washington. We cannot, if we look throughout the whole country, find in retirement a man on whose head a nation's destinies have, with entire unanimity, been bestowed as on him. We cannot look abroad and find some one man whose name is gratefully remembered as having been upon the banners of this country, and to whom all look again to the charge this benevolent office of patriotism a second time for them. We have eminent and good men; we have them in public and in private life; we have them in the military and in the civil service of the country; we have them belonging to all parties into which the people are divided; but sir, among them all, there is not one whose name can, without profanation, be spoken in comparison with the name of Washington. Sir, the creation of that office in 1798 was a personal tribute of grateful admiration and respect on the part of this country to Washington. It was founded on motives personal to him. No man supposed at that day, as some seem to suppose at this, that Washington, at the head of the armies of his country, with the title of major general, could not have been as efficient as if he bore a hundred titles—as if he wore all the titles which European device could heap upon him. The idea that Washington could derive any advantage, any mental power of concentration, any genius, any greater skill in the management of the affairs of his country; or that it would add anything to the indomitable spirit by which he was enabled, in success or in adversity, to be always the same; that he could derive in any degree all or any of these attributes from the circumstance of bearing a higher title, entered not my mind. I am persuaded, into the imagination of any man being. It was known that Washington, with the title of major general, could have discharged all the duties that were placed in his hands—ay, with an inferior title; because the power to discharge them depended on his personal qualities, and the force placed at his command. The title in that case was just; it was deserved by him, but no other man. Am I wrong in saying that this appointment sprung from motives personal to Washington? Why, look at the subsequent transactions of this Government. Nearly half a century has passed away since this office of lieutenant general existed among us. We have during that period been engaged in war with the then most powerful nation of Europe—perhaps I might say, without exaggeration, of the world. At one time, if my memory serves me, we had in the field not less than eight major generals—perhaps I am mistaken, however; if so, some Senator can set me right—yet I believe no one ever thought of appointing some general-in-chief, on whom should be bestowed the high-sounding imposing title of lieutenant general. What reason does the President assign in his message wherefore this office should be established? Why, sir, for one, that we are carrying on a war with Mexico with mingled troops, regulars and volunteers. Was not that the case in the war of 1812? For another, that the force which we now employ is large. Was it not large in 1812? Was England a less formidable foe than weak and crippled Mexico? How stands the case between us? Why, sir, on shore, on the soil, our war with England was almost entirely a defensive war. She, from her great maritime power, was enabled to throw her troops into our country, and we were occupied in repelling them, which we did successfully, thanks to the gallant spirit of the officers and men composing our army. But how is it now? We are almost in the heart of Mexico; the foot of no foreign soldier pollutes our soil; our agricultural labors are not disturbed. We are suffering no evils inflicted upon us by a foreign foe within the limits of our land. How does it happen, then, that what was not thought to be necessary in 1812, against a great Power, should be considered necessary now against the neighboring Republic of Mexico, though not exactly the contemptible enemy which she was once supposed to be, because we have the best authority for thinking now that the idea of a six week's contest has passed away from the minds even of those who are most apt to indulge in fictions of the imagination; for, on yesterday, we had it announced that we are now, though warring against a despicable foe, only at the beginning of the war. But still, although it is true that Mexico is not the contemptible foe which she has been represented to be—although she is showing that a nation roused for the purpose of protecting themselves from an invading enemy may be strong if united—yet still every one must know her power is not to be compared with ours, and that, as an enemy, she is not worthy to be compared with the great nation to which we were opposed in 1812. But, in reference to the reasons which induced the Senator from Kentucky and myself, as members of the Military Committee of the Senate, to be opposed to the bill, the same objections which I then entertained still remain in full force. I listened attentively yesterday to what fell from the honorable Senator from New York for the purpose of seeing whether, in reality, there was some just reason for the passage of this measure, which, conceived from my own observation, might be brought forward and explained before me by the ingenuity of this honorable Senator; but, sir, after most

ROB. B. GILLIAM, Speaker of the H. of Commons. A. JOYNER, Speaker of the Senate.