

ORANGETOWN CELEBRATION.

We notice some very spicy toasts, drank on the 4th, at Orangeburg, S. C. The sum of the sentiments uttered and repeated, is that South Carolina desires the co-operation of her sister States, in defending Southern Rights, but is, nevertheless, willing to undertake that matter alone, and on her sole responsibility; that the southern members who refused to sign the Southern Address, should receive a mark as indelible as that branded upon Cain; "the Union, as our forefathers made it—not as an irresponsible majority would have it"—with more of the like character.

The willingness of South Carolina to do battle alone, shows, at least, the want of that better part of valor, prudence. There is a great deal of talk about action, and much boasting about what the several sections will do, when it comes to the "plumed troop and the big war." In fact, we should imagine, from the tone and temper expressed on the 4th that every individual in South Carolina is a "kill him and eat him" hero.

As to branding the Southern Members who refused to sign the Southern Address—it is very strange that our neighbors will not permit their brethren of the South to enjoy an opinion, variant from that of South Carolina, without using language indicative of jacobinical fury. It is very clear that those who thus refused, were as honest and patriotic as any who did sign it. None of them, we suppose, pretends to be an "evil-doer" and daring and brave as the South Carolinians. To do this would be treason against the most valiant valor and sublime simplicity, ever known in the present reading of the world's history.

As regards "the Union as our forefathers made it"—we suppose the English to be, "the Union as South Carolina wants it"—herself taking the responsibility of giving the proper construction to the language of the Constitution. This proves that South Carolina is a vast deal wiser than any of her sisters—in her own estimation, at least.

In regard to the "irresponsible majority," it is a term of strange import in a Republic.—We suppose the Quattlebams must be deeply in love with the "one man power," now so hotly contended for by the late democratic party. Our old fashioned Jeffersonianism teaches us that the majority ought to rule, and is the only responsible sovereign in a democratic government.

While our neighbors assert that Mr. J. C. Calhoun is "wise and faithful," they set down the majority of the people as wicked and "irresponsible." It is necessary to have some embodiment of wisdom and power, since it is denied to the people. We desire to say nothing disrespectful of Mr. C., but if it were possible to make a fool of him, his fellow citizens of South Carolina would do the thing, certainly.

The "chivalry" of the South, represented at Orangeburg on the 4th, speak of Gen. Taylor's renown as a warrior being tarnished by the recency and incapacity of the Statesman Recrunt to whom? Not to South Carolina, herself recreant to the cause of Southern Rights, in opposing his election.

The South Carolinians should explain their conduct at the late election, before they call upon their southern brethren to imbue their hands in blood, and jeopard their souls in treason.—Let them, if they can, convince the world that the love of office and the spoils is not the moving cause of all their political agitations—let them explain why it was that they opposed the election of a Southern Slave Holder and Planter, when it was a fundamental doctrine with them, that a Southern man of any profession in politics, is more safe for the South than a "northern man with southern principles." Let the absurdities and contradictions thus exhibited, be adjusted to reason or common sense—and then our neighbors may set to work to convince the world that there is one spark of democracy in the swaggering aristocrats of South Carolina, who rule the mind and heart and motion of the people there.—Wilmington Commercial.

COLL. WEBB AND GEN. CASS.

Col. Webb, the senior editor of the Courier and Enquirer, is on a tour through the Lakes. He writes a number of interesting letters to his paper, an extract from one of which, we publish to-day. In the following, the reader will find an interesting account of Gen. Cass, whose warm personal friend the writer is, though he opposed his election:

"In all the relations of private life, no man stands higher in my estimation than Lewis Cass."

If, in the late contest, he had represented his own principles, instead of the principles of the Democratic party, I have no hesitation in saying that I should have rejoiced in his election. But that was not the fact. A party man in the strictest sense of the term, he consented to become the candidate of his party, and would, if elected, honestly and honorably have carried out its pledges. He is, I am quite sure, as much opposed to the extension of Slavery into territory now free, as I am; and he is, beyond all doubt, the friend of Internal Improvements and of a protective Tariff. And yet, strange as it may appear, he was the candidate of the party which was pledged to a course hostile to his own views on all these great questions; and if elected, he would have honestly carried out their pledges instead of his own views. Under such circumstances, I of course, in common with all who are opposed to the doctrines of Locofocoism, labored zealously to defeat its candidate. I could have rejoiced in the election of Lewis Cass to the Presidency; but I rejoiced without bounds in the defeat of Lewis Cass, pledged to support the principles of his own sound political views and opinions. But this is all past. I still entertain, as I ever have, that a more honest man does not live, although I differ from him in toto in regard to party obligations. In my judgment he is in principle a Whig, bound by party ties and party fealty to the Democracy; and I know him too well to believe that he will ever be faithful to what he deems his obligations to party. In all human probability, therefore, we shall always be politically opposed; but I take pleasure in bearing testimony now, as I uniformly did during the late Presidential canvass, to his sterling honesty, and to his possessing in as great a degree as any man I ever knew, every quality which renders man estimable in the relations of private life."

If this account of Gen. Cass be correct, he must be the most insincere of men. If he is opposed to the extension of slavery, why did he allow himself to be represented as he was, in the Southern papers? If he is in favor of River and Harbor Improvements, why did he not

say so to the Chicago Convention? If he is in favor of both these, and the Protection of Home Industry too, why did he adopt the Baltimore platform? Why, if he deserves the high commendations bestowed upon him by Col. Webb, did he stick to that party with which he differed so widely? We cannot conceive how any man deserving this lofty praise, could have consented to become the candidate of a party "hostile to his own views." It certainly is irreconcilable with our ideas of patriotism, to say nothing of honesty.—Rich Whig.

The Nat. Intelligencer of the 10th inst. says: Having observed in the "Union" an attack upon the SECRETARY OF STATE about his instructions to Mr. BANCROFT on the subject of our Navigation Laws, we took the liberty to inquire of the Secretary what instructions he had given to Mr. BANCROFT on that subject. The reply we have received is what we expected. The Secretary has not written a line to Mr. BANCROFT on the subject! How much lower will the "Union" have to descend before it gets to the bottom?

When will the "Union" publish the Correspondence between the Secretary of State and Baron ROSENNE? We have before said that the "Union" could not publish it without exposing itself to shame for the misrepresentations it has printed on the subject. Whenever that correspondence shall be published by the "Union," its readers will at once perceive that its extracts from it are garbled, and that, for the authentic and recorded facts of the case, false coloring and misstatement are substituted.

It is proper, however, that we should add, for the information of our readers, that the obvious malice or motive of the course of the "Union" in regard to this and other matters in which the Administration is concerned, together with the utter recklessness of its assaults, have already disarmed it of the power to injure. In regard to the particular transaction above referred to, the public mind has so unanimously approved the conduct of the Executive, that beside the "Union," hardly a solitary voice is raised to blame it.

In connexion with this matter, we copy from the Alexandria Gazette, as being entirely borne out by our own personal observation and impression, the following remarks:

"We are pleased to learn that, in proportion to the constancy and rudeness of the assaults of the Opposition upon our excellent President and his Administration, the determination of the Whigs to rally around him and his Cabinet is strengthened and increased. So far from the Whig spirit being depressed, it is rising, and will be heightened by the desire to uphold the efforts of General TAYLOR to do his duty faithfully in the discharge of the great trust which the people have committed to his hands. The Opposition presses will find that they commenced their game too soon, and in too bad a temper. They have chosen their course, however, and it is for them to pursue it, if they think it will accomplish their ends. They will discover, before they get through, that General TAYLOR is as strong a man at the head of the Government as he was at the head of our gallant troops—strong, we mean, in the affections and confidence of his countrymen."

CANADIAN DECENCY.

It is said that Lady Elgin, the wife of the Governor General of Canada, has been so insulted by the British populace in her daily drives that she has been forced to relinquish them.

What manly and decent conduct! Insulting a defenceless woman on account of her husband's political opinions and course! Where is Mrs. Trollope? Col. Hamilton? Marryatt? Dickens? Did either of those inventive geniuses ever lay such a sin as that at the door of our poor, vulgar barbarians of America? No, they never pretended it. It never happened, it never could happen in this country, that vengeance against a public man should be visited upon his wife. Think of Americans following the carriage of Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Polk, Mrs. Taylor, &c., and hooting at them, because the political course of their husbands did not suit the fancies of men out of power! Every one sees that this could not happen here.

But we are too fast! It may happen here; for these very Canadian blackguards talk of annexing themselves to the United States. "Evil communication corrupt good manners." WE WANT NONE OF THEM! We would much rather see them annex their necks to a millstone, and throw themselves into the Atlantic, than force themselves into the embrace of a great and decent country.—Richmond Republican.

THE WASHINGTON UNION.

Medical philosophers say that in epidemics it is dangerous to change old established habits suddenly. If this be true, our friend of the Washington Union is the finest target we know of for cholera, and he may be considered a gone case. While Mr. Polk held the reins, the Union was in a perpetual strain of laudation.—Nothing occurred under Mr. Polk that the Union did not praise. Throughout the whole of that administration, it never found a single thing to blame or censure. Our contemporary has turned an awful somerser. He now finds no term of reproach hard enough for General Taylor. Nothing has yet been done by the Administration that is worthy of one word of praise. It is this not an utter abandonment of an old habit that may lead to an attack of cholera, we shall be agreeably disappointed.

Joe's Failing Discovered.—Our old friend Joe is what is generally termed a bad boy, and succeeded in blinding his mother for some time, as to his imbibing propensities, and one morning she said to him after he had swallowed some half dozen cups of coffee, and as many glasses of cold water—

"Joseph, thee should drink something better than goes to bed at night—there is always so thirsty in the morning."

But one night, one fatal night, Joe came in before the old lady had retired. He sat down with that look of semi-intoxicated wisdom, began conversing about the goodness of the crops the late unfortunate outbreak in the meeting, and was getting on very well until he espied what he supposed to be a cigar on the mantle-piece; he caught it, and placing one end in his mouth, began very gravely to light it at the candle. He drew and puffed until he was getting pale in the face. The old lady's eye was opened, and she addressed him—

"If thee takes that tempny nail for a cigar, it is time thee went to bed."

One of the toasts drank at a recent celebration was—"Woman! She requires no eulogy—she speaks for herself."

LETTER FROM B. F. MOORE, ESQ.

Some difficulty having arisen, and the opinion of the Attorney General having been frequently solicited, as to the matters involved in the following Communication, he has taken this opportunity, through publication of a letter to the Clerk of Union County Court, to make generally known his opinion on the premises.

RALEIGH, June 15, 1849.

SIR:—I have received your letter of the 9th inst. You desire to know the opinion of the Attorney General, whether it is the intent and meaning of the 3d Sec. Chap. 2, of the Acts of the late Session of the Legislature, that the Clerks shall include the tax imposed by the preceding Act in the tax list which the law requires them to furnish the Sheriffs for the year 1849.

The Act you refer to is supplemental to another, entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of a State Hospital for the insane in North Carolina," passed at the same Session. By the 5th Sec. of the Act it is provided, that a tax on land and poll shall be levied &c. By the third Sec. of the Supplemental Act; it is declared to be the duty of the County Court Clerks of the several Counties in this State, "to include the tax imposed by this Act in the tax lists which they are now required by law to furnish the Sheriffs of their respective Counties, and that the Sheriffs shall collect, account for, and pay over the said taxes in the same manner they are now required," &c.

These acts take effect and go into operation thirty days after the Adjournment. Consequently they were in full force on the first day of March last. It is true, that, in contemplation of law, the tax lists are delivered over within thirty days after they are returned; and they are to be returned to the first Court which may happen after July. So that, in contemplation of law they are in the hands of the Sheriffs before November in the year preceding the April when the Sheriffs are required to begin their collections. Generally, however, these lists are not delivered till the year they are collected. By the general law concerning the Revenue, Rev. Stat. Sec. 25, tax lists are referred to the first day of April, and the taxes on property owned as of that day, become collectable, except in some few cases, one year thereafter.

I am of opinion, however, that the tax levied by the Act of 1843 for the establishment of an insane hospital, becomes due and collectable during this year; and although the Act directs the Clerks to include the tax in the tax lists which they are required to furnish the Sheriffs, (a thing impossible literally to be done, where lists were furnished before the passage of the Act,) I deem it, nevertheless, the duty of the Clerks, to furnish such a list to Sheriffs, by way of supplement. And, perhaps, it might be right to send to the Comptroller an abstract although there is no law requiring it. If, however, this is not done, I suppose the tax might be exacted of the Sheriffs upon the abstracts already returned, for the tax imposed is specific on land and poll, and ascertainable without difficulty.

The provision of the law for levying collecting and accounting for this tax, is not as plain as it might be; but it appears to have been the purpose of the legislature to levy a present tax, and that lists, to that end, should be made out and furnished the Sheriffs. I do not think the Sheriffs are excused if they fail to collect the tax, even if no lists are furnished them: for they have the means to execute the law by the lists already furnished.

I have said above, that tax lists, in contemplation of law, are delivered to the Sheriffs within thirty days after the first Court which may be held after July. In point of fact, they never are delivered till about the first day of April of the succeeding year. This practice has been adopted from its obvious convenience; for the delay enables the Clerks to include the taxes laid for County revenue. And doubtless the Legislature had in view this practice, when they made provision for levying and collecting the tax for the establishment of an insane hospital. Nothing but the delay of publishing and distributing the Laws has occasioned the inconvenience to Clerks and Sheriffs in regard to this tax.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. MOORE,
Clerk of Union County Court.

[We understand that there is a difficulty with some of the collecting officers in calculating the tax on the value of land. The tax is one and three fourths cents on the \$100 worth. The easiest method which occurs to us, is to multiply the value by 2 and deduct one eighth of the product from the product.

Thus—land value, \$75
Multiply by 2
150
Deduct 1/8 18 75
131 25

One cent and 31-100, or one cent and one third nearly.]—Ed.

PROSPECTUS FOR ENLARGING AND OTHERWISE IMPROVING THE RALEIGH REGISTER.

This long established Whig Journal, having passed permanently into the hands of the present Editor, he has determined (provided sufficient encouragement be given) upon so enlarging its dimensions, as to make it contain nearly EIGHT COLUMNS more than it now does, and upon improving its appearance in such manner as to make it one of the largest and handsomest sheets in the South. To effect this object, it will require a considerable expenditure in the purchase of a new Press, new Type, and other necessary materials; and as we do not intend to make any advance upon the present rates of subscription, we shall have to rely solely for remuneration upon accessions to our list. We have issued this Prospectus with a view to the attainment of this object; and it is desired that our friends will exert themselves in procuring us subscriptions.

TERMS. For the Semi-Weekly, \$5, or \$4 50, in advance. Weekly, \$3, or \$2 50.

VACANCY TO FILL.—There is a vacancy in the Watchman Office, we would be glad to have filled soon by any decent young man, to learn the printing business. He should be able to read and write of from 14 to 17 years of age, apt to learn, of good natural sense, and of industrious habits. One of Presbyterian raising would be preferred. To such an one desiring to learn the business, we believe the Watchman Office possesses advantages over any other Office in Western N. Carolina. Address, BRUNER & JAMES.

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year preceding the time when the owner renders his list, only; or does the Act embrace interest which may have been accruing before the commencement of that year, and may happen to be due, or received during that year?

Second—Whether the taxable interest must have accrued on money invested, and secured by a mortgage, or trust deed, or by a surety, or otherwise, or by the responsibility of the debtor, only?

Third—Whether the tax is only on such interest as may have been received; or, also, on such as may have accrued, and is due on investments deemed to be safe?

Fourth—In respect to the second Section—relating to tax on profits of certain traders enumerated, and "all other species of trades."—Does the act impose a tax on the profits of the trader, &c., made since the passage of the Act; or on all profits made during the entire year preceding the time of rendering the list?

As to the first inquiry, I am of opinion that the tax is upon such interest only as may have accrued during the year immediately preceding the time when the owner shall give in his tax list. The words "at any time during the year," do not connect with the words, "secured and actually due, or received," but with the words, "upon all sums of money at interest." So that the clause, substantially, reads thus:— "Hereafter there shall be levied the sum of three cents upon every dollar of interest, which may be safely secured and actually due, or which may be received, upon all sums of money, any time at interest, (in or out of the State) during the year next preceding the time when the owner thereof shall give in his tax list."

Interest, accrued prior to the year preceding the time of the tax list, is not taxed by the law. As to the second inquiry—I am of opinion, that money invested on an individual obligation, without surety, or any such collateral security as mortgage or deed of trust, is "secured," in the meaning of the Act.

As to the third inquiry—I am of opinion, that not only is interest received, taxable, but all such interest as is "safely secured and actually due."

In the construction of every instrument, and more especially those of so solemn a character as contain the expressed will of the Sovereign, it is our duty to suppose that every word has its apt and proper meaning, and is designed to effect some purpose. The expression "safely secured and actually due," has a clear signification of itself, and is not equivalent to the term "received;" but when standing in connection with that word, the difference in their meaning is the more obvious. The purpose of the Act was to tax income; but that which had been received, and that which might be demanded and received—therefore, it is, that the Act uses the terms, "safely secured AND actually due." If it is not actually due—that is, demandable—it is not the subject of taxation, although secured. If it be demandable, and yet not safely secured, it is not liable to be taxed.

It is true, that it may be both demandable and safely secured, and yet the owner be unable to receive it. Nevertheless, it is regarded as profits already made. The law forbids the inquiry, whether the payment had been indulged or refused, and treated both alike, in order to secure the public from imposition; leaving to the owner a guaranty, supposed to be ample for his protection, in the reference to himself, of the question whether interest is safely secured—that is, whether it is a good debt. All indulgence to the debtor, being left as a private matter between the parties, as one of their own concern.

In respect to the inquiry on the second Section of the Act, it will be perceived that it is, substantially, answered by the opinion already expressed on the inquiries made under the first section. In my opinion, the proper construction of the Act is to be found in the following reading of it, which I believe contains the constructive sense of it:— "Hereafter there shall be levied the sum of three cents upon every dollar of profits or dividend safely secured and actually due, or received, which may arise from any and all sums of money, vested in trading in slaves, &c. (in or out of the State) at any time during the year immediately preceding the time when the trader shall give in his tax list."

I do not think the Act applies to a citizen here who may have been a citizen of another State, and carried on a lucrative trading there, during the year; and who happens to be a citizen here, on the day of rendering his tax list. He is liable to be taxed on so much of his profits only as were realized during the time he may have been a citizen of this State.

B. F. MOORE.

The Sub-Treasurer.—On the 30th ultimo Ex-Governor Bouck squared up, as has already been announced, his accounts, balanced the books, and delivered over the keys of the Sub-Treasury to his successor, Ex-Gov. Young, who entered at once upon the responsibilities of his office. Some estimate of the amount of business done may be formed, when it is known that, from October 16, 1846, to this date, one hundred and forty six millions six hundred and sixty-seven thousand five hundred and thirty-four dollars and seven cents, have passed through the custody of the Sub-Treasurer, without the loss to the Government of a single farthing.—Immediately upon taking possession of his office, Governor Young invited the corps of clerks that had been appointed by his predecessor, and who had become familiar with the business, to continue their situation, to which all consented except chief Clerk Colonel Freeman Stanton, a fellow-townsmen of Governor Bouck, who desired to follow his friend into retirement. Whereupon Governor Young tendered the post to Mr. Jacob Russell, who entered at once upon the discharge of his duties, rendered familiar by three years application in the complicated service of the famous Sub-treasurer.—N. Y. Express.

Hon. Henry Clay.—The annexed paragraph, copied from the Lexington Observer of the 4th inst., shows that the late reports respecting the condition of Mr. Clay had no foundation in fact: "We had a painful rumor in the city yesterday that our distinguished fellow citizen, Mr. Clay, had been severely attacked with cholera at Ashland, and that he was in a very dangerous condition. We are gratified to be able to contradict the rumor. Mr. Clay was slightly unwell, as was Mrs. Clay also, yesterday morning, but we learned in the evening from the attending physician that both were entirely relieved."

THE MEXICAN RAILROAD.

We are authorized and requested to state, says the Washington Intelligencer, that the time fixed upon by the Government of Mexico for receiving proposals for the construction of the railroad between Vera Cruz and Mexico, will be four months, commencing from the 14th day of last month, (June)

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN

Salisbury, N. C. THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 10, 1849.

We are authorized and requested to announce Joseph P. Caldwell, Esq., of Iredell County, as a Candidate to represent the second District at the next Congress of the United States.

The Hon. D. M. BARRINGER will please send our thanks for a copy of the Congressional Globe lately bound, and for other valuable public Documents.

Plank Road.—We see in the Fayetteville Carolinian the report of the proceedings of a Plank Road meeting in Lexington, on the 4th July.—Dr. W. R. Holt, chairman, and Wm. Harris and A. G. Foster, secretaries. Mr. P. K. Rounsaville offered a Preamble and Resolutions, from which we copy the following:

"Resolved, That we consider the usefulness of this Plank Road will be more materially promoted by entering into the heart of this county at Lexington, and running thence to the terminus, than in any other way; and that for this purpose we will give to its construction a liberal subscription."

By another resolution four delegates, to wit, H. R. Dusenberry, J. W. Thomson, Dr. Payne, and A. G. Foster, were appointed to attend the meeting of the Plank Road Company at Fayetteville, on the 12th.

We do not altogether understand the movements of our neighbors: What do they want with both a Plank Road and a Railway? The business of New York, we know, required a rail-road parallel with and on the banks of the Hudson river; but is it not a very uncertain investment to build the two works contemplated, between Salisbury and Lexington? So is not premature? The plank road, so far as the people here are concerned, if it be located as proposed by the people of Fayetteville, may terminate at Lexington.—It will be of no manner of use to bring a here. The Great Central Rail Road, which we know the people of Lexington are favorable, will, we think, afford sufficient facilities for all the intercourse and trade reasonably to be hoped to exist between the two villages.

So far as we have been able to ascertain the sentiment of the people of Rowan on the subject of the Plank Road, it is this: They want the evident intention of the Legislature strictly carried out, and the road located as directly between its two terminuses as the nature of the country will admit; and if there be any deviation from a straight line at all, that it be made to the South. They are utterly opposed to its location being made through Randolph and Lexington; for the reason that it will be a fraud upon the State, and will be useless so far as they are concerned, the distance to Fayetteville by that route being increased at least one-fifth, and the toll, should they ever travel the road, be proportionably higher.

If the road should be built on the proposed line, they would prefer seeing it terminate at that point by which the interest of the State and the Stockholders would be most promoted and they have no hesitation in believing that by this rule it would never reach Salisbury.—They are willing to be taxed for a useful work of internal improvement, but are opposed to building such a monument of folly as that alluded to.

PLANK ROAD MEETING.

The Stockholders of the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road Company assembled in the Fayetteville Hall, on the 12th inst., for the purpose of receiving the report of the Engineer, and locating the Road. The Hon. Robert Strange was called to the chair.

There are many delegates present from abroad, and the greatest enthusiasm is said to prevail.

Speeches were made by Messrs. Thomas and Foster of Davidson, Kelly and Person of Moore, by his Excellency, Gov. Manly, and Dr. F. J. Hill.

Up to the time of going to Press, nothing definite was transacted. The Proceedings will appear in our next.—Fayetteville Carolinian.

GOV. MANLY, AT FAYETTEVILLE.

The Governor was visiting Fayetteville, several days last week, his object being to attend a meeting of the Cape Fear Navigation Company on Wednesday, and the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road Company on Thursday. He was received with abundant honors by the citizens and military, and was tendered the hospitalities of the Town, by Alexander McKEETHAN. The Governor's reply was brief but eloquent, tendering his best wishes for the prosperity of the town and the success of its schemes of improvement, and coming, as he said, to "offer the hand, the heart, and the purse of the State." Three cheers were given, and the Governor, after salutations of his numerous friends, partook of a collation prepared for the occasion.

The Fayetteville Carolinian from which we gather the foregoing, says:

"On Thursday, the Stockholders of the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road Company met in the large Hall of the