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THE WATCHMAN.

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 1850.

THE "AURORA'S" NEUTRALITY, &c.

The Wilmington Aurora takes issue with us on the score of its "neutrality" in politics.—We are glad that paper quoted our remarks concerning it in full, as they may thus speak for themselves. That paper says:

"The attention of the Salisbury Watchman to ourselves requires some notice. They speak of the Aurora as a neutral affair. They lie wilfully. Our course has been as open as the sky."

This has, at least, the merit of bluntness, and of course claims our notice in some shape. We can, and will, before we close, arraign the Aurora and also the "Nest" on the same charge; but we shall not pretend to offer their conviction as any justification or offset against the charge the former so delicately makes against us.

As to the Aurora's being *not* a "neutral affair," we do not pretend to believe. It is just as good a democratic paper, as the most uncompromising of that party could desire. It does not deny coming out as an "independent," and in its first number, it acknowledges allegiance to no party. "It says," it must be understood that the Aurora is not the organ of any man or party." In the same article, however, the editor declared himself a democrat, a State's Rights democrat.—But so mild and complacent a partisan was he at first, that unless our memory has cheated us beyond what is common, the Aurora was received with considerable kindness by a portion of the Whig press of the State; and thus grew up in our mind the idea of its coming out as a neutral paper. It occurs to us, too, that there was something in the "Aurora's" prospectus which was calculated to suggest the thought of its being a neutral, so far as it concerned the Whig and Democratic parties. But as we have not that paper before us, we shall not speak positively. At all events, whether the editor's course in the commencement and subsequent conduct of the Aurora was fairly calculated to leave that impression upon the mind or not, we very honestly received it; and if, in speaking of it as coming out as a sort of "neutral affair" we misrepresented it, respect for truth, would require a correction of the statement. One thing is certain: The Aurora set itself up as an "independent"—as "the organ of no man or party;" and that position usually carries with it, to some extent, the idea of neutrality. Whether these circumstances justify the terms of our remarks, we leave for others to decide. We certainly intended no misrepresentation of its position. It is bad enough as it is, without being made worse.

And whatever it is, it was not in our opinion, the result of the promptings of a mighty genius, which scorned identification with any particular party, or sought to astound the world by its own peculiar greatness and superiority. No, no. We think the course pursued by this *no party*, or "independent" journal, has not even left the shadow of a shade of doubt on the minds of the observant, that it is, of the rankest order of Locofoco papers. "There is policy in war." A paper coming out and professing to attach to *no party*, would commend itself to many, on whom, after gaining their confidence, it might operate to advantage of the one, and the disadvantage of the other, of the two great parties of the country, as it might choose.—Whether this was the plan of the Aurora, all men are as well able to determine as we are. If it was, it is known only by the editor and those with whom he may have advised, and will, by them, be guarded. Others can only judge by circumstances, which will gradually develop themselves.

But we made a promise in the outset which we now propose to comply with. The Aurora, speaking of the breeze between this paper and the "Hornets' Nest," says: "We know none of the parties to this dispute, and should have stood off, if the submissionists who rejoice in the coparting title of Bruner & James, and Cousin Sally Dillard, had let us alone."

Since the "dispute" between the "Nest" and this paper commenced, that journal has several times made the insinuation that Bruner & James do not write the editorials of the Watchman, although they print themselves as its editor. The "Nest," will not deny this; and it may be the frequency with which the insinuation has been made, and our hitherto silence on the subject, has probably been the cause of the Aurora's joining in the cry. And we should not have noticed the thing now, but for the reason that the Aurora has made such a plain allusion to H. C. JONES, Esq., that he had as well have called this name at once; and it is so unjust, both to that gentleman and ourselves, that it were wrong we should permit it to pass.

It has now been eleven years, lacking two months, since H. C. JONES, Esq., retired from the editorial chair of the Watchman. Since that time the Watchman has been twice transferred; Mr. Jones, the while, pursuing the profession of the law, and for seven or eight years of the time, carrying on one of the neatest little farms in Rowan county. When he relinquished the Watchman, it was a *bona fide* sale; he has since had no more personal interest in, or control of, the paper than Henry I. Toole himself, or any other gentleman who was never among our types and presses. He has

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

BRUNER & JAMES,
Editors & Proprietors.

"KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR RULES."



DO THIS, AND LIBERTY IS SAFE.
Gen'l Harrison.

NEW SERIES.
VOLUME VII—NUMBER 3.

SALISBURY, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1850.

been attending to his own private business as every other gentleman does, and if at any time since, he has written any articles for this paper, (and many gentlemen of this and other counties have,) it was upon subjects of general interest and for the promotion of high and patriotic purposes. It is very unjust to him, therefore, to lug in his name, or by allusions to bring him in as a party in matters of such a character as that between the *goose* "Nest," the "Aurora" and ourselves. We doubt whether this little dispute has ever attracted the attention of that gentleman in his country retreat, much less interested him. But if you want to stir up this old editor of the Watchman, let some *disunionist*, *anti-internal improvement*, *anti-common school* stager, some assailer of the people's rights, some selfish demagogue, make his appearance within our bounds to preach his doctrines; and our word for it, the author of Cousin Sally Dillard, will show himself in a manner that will be worthy of the occasion. We tell the Aurora, therefore, that it is wrong in its intimation that Mr. Jones is connected in any manner with the Watchman; and if it has no respect either for that gentleman or ourselves, yet respect for himself and for truth and justice requires that that gentleman's reputation should not be involved where he has not by any act of his involved it.

In conclusion, we would inquire of the Aurora, and of its "friend" the Nest, what evidence have you to sustain the insinuation that the proprietors of this paper, do not write the editorials of the Watchman? We know you have none—not a particle. The editors of the Watchman in speaking of the Aurora as coming out as a *neutral affair* are charged by that paper with a "wilful lie." The circumstances of its coming out, and our words on the subject are before the public. We fear not its decision. The "Nest" in commenting on our remarks concerning Mr. Clingman as having apparently thrown himself into the arms of the Locofocos, spoke of them as "a bit of merchandise which had been lying on their table," &c.

Now gentlemen, you are mutual "friends"—you have each been playing into other's hands for some time—praising each other—puffing each other—copying each other's wit, and singing each other's songs. The world stands still and gazes in mute astonishment at your pranks. Two pick pockets were never more "thick"—two asses never made more noise by their braying. Together you have been for a Nashville Convention,—together in abuse of Mr. Stanly—together in misrepresenting the Whigs on the subject of Southern rights—together playing into the hands of the Locofocos—*together in literary productions of rare merit*—together in an insinuation against us where you have not a particle of truth or evidence to sustain you. Until you relieve your own positions, it little becomes you to give the lie so flaily. It is not so bad to be called a liar as it is to be proven one.

NO SIGN.

The subjoined letter reached this place last week, while our Superior Court was in session; and many of our knowing folk had the satisfaction of first seeing it here. There was a very considerable disposition on the part of some of them to laugh over it; and some few others actually did *sorter roar*. The thing, they said, was such a curiosity in its way, and they could not help it, if their sides were to split. Some said the authors had been expecting a sign from Heaven, but no sign having been given, therefore they could not go to Nashville. Others said they had miscalculated the extent of the excitement in North Carolina, as well as the importance of those causes out of which they supposed excitement would arise; and were therefore returning to sober good sense. Others again, said, that they were beginning to be convinced that the Nashville Convention, could not, at this time, do any good, and might do mischief. Others thought that they had discovered (give Toole credit for this) their mischievous schemes were doomed to fail, and that they are now only trying to *hide*. Others, again, that their "bomb" was about to explode in their own ranks, and they were scrambling to get out of the way. Others said there were no bombs in Sampson's day, and wondered, any how, what Sampson and bombs had to do with the Nashville Convention. Others again, thought that the authors, not receiving the sign, either from Heaven above, nor from the people below, concluded they were without authority to act, and, in fact, if the truth was known, the people did not wish them to go to Nashville. These, and many more thoughts, were expressed, or conceived, or hinted at after reading the following—

Joint Letter of Messrs. Strange and McRee.

We publish below, a joint letter from these gentlemen recently appointed on the part of the Whigs and Democrats of this District, to represent them in the Nashville convention. It will be seen that both regard it as inexpedient under present circumstances to take their seats in that body—and recommend that should it meet in June next, as originally proposed, the members present adjourn over. We commend the careful perusal of the letter to

all our readers, and request that it may have a general circulation. [Aurora.] FAYETTEVILLE, May 11, 1850.

HENRY I. TOOLE, Esq.:

DEAR SIR:—The time for the Nashville convention is at hand. A meeting pregnant with the most important results to the whole family of man. When chosen by the convention of this Congressional District, in March last, as its representatives at Nashville, while justly proud of the honor, we felt most painfully the dread responsibility thus cast upon us.—But we have no wish or purpose to shrink from it. We felt assured that the same God who had led our fathers through the scenes of the Revolution, would lead us also in the right way, either by the pillar of cloud or the pillar of fire. We believe we are all instruments in his hands to accomplish his purposes; and we knew by the past that those purposes for the future will be just and merciful. Yet we are at this time greatly perplexed, and must confess that we see not those plain indications of what providence designs for us, to enable us to decide with confidence whether or not it is our duty to go to Nashville at the time proposed. At the New Hanover meeting held in January, one of us felt no hesitation in saying, that by the first Monday in June, it would be plainly seen that Southern Rights would meet with reasonable consideration from our Northern brethren; or that we must prepare to maintain them by dissolution and war. I was mistaken. The mysterious veil of the future still hangs over those events which must decide the question, and no one can safely conjecture in what form they will be revealed. Under those circumstances what can a Convention do? Nothing, nothing at least but mischief. Even resolutions adopted by it cannot possibly be of service, and would probably do harm. Should those resolutions be expressive of a united purpose at the South, to stand by their rights at every hazard, will they not justly be considered thus uttered pending a negotiation, as indecent threatening or idle blustering. And if conciliatory and mild, may they not beget doubts in many minds at least whether the hearts of Southern heroes are not failing them, as they contemplate in fancy, the great Potomac sending her waves to the ocean, swollen and red with the blood of men poured out from kindred bosom. Besides this, a Nashville convention is a strong measure, full of consequences, when over, it will be like an exploded bomb, no longer feared, not even respected; or will have left behind it sad and abiding evidences of its tremendous power. We should reserve it for a time of need, when like Sampson, wronged by his enemies past all endurance, he might wisely seek their destruction, even though it cost him his life. Sir, we are persuaded that these are the feelings of a large proportion of the people of our State nay, even of our own District, which has been more forward than any other part of the State in this matter. We should now misrepresent them by participating in any action of a Nashville convention at this time. It is the duty of every representative to reflect, as far as possible, the will of his constituents. If we believed that ours desired our attendance, we would go regardless of our own opinions, or our personal convenience. But, if the vote of the District could now be taken upon the question, a very large majority we think would even forbid us to go. We shall therefore not take our seats in the convention at Nashville, unless some change takes place in the aspect of public affairs between now and the first Monday in June. We are much obliged to you for an article in the Aurora of Wednesday last, headed "The Nashville Convention again." Other reasons are suggested therein why the convention should not meet at this time, which you have there saved us the necessity of offering here. We hope that those who do meet at Nashville at the time appointed, will adjourn, without any other action, to a more suitable time at the same or some other place when and where the whole South, with undivided heart, may lift up a shout of joy for our glorious Union preserved, or rally with sad but determined purpose around the no less glorious standard of "Liberty and the Rights of the South."

We are with great respect, your friends and fellow citizens.

ROBERT STRANGE.
G. J. McREE.

Papers of the State are requested to copy the above.

(Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.)

Mr. Webster's civic reception in Boston is an honor equal to any triumph that was ever decreed to a Roman conqueror, and I may say for as great a service to his country. His speech will be remembered, and will go down to posterity, with his noble motto—"I tread no step backward!" If he has conquered the prejudices of the people of Massachusetts—a people who have conquered every thing but their prejudices—he is the greatest moral conqueror of the age. Mr. Webster remarks justly, upon what the country must ere this have learned to appreciate—the difference between doing what is agreeable and doing what is just. With other persons, differently situated, in regard to politics and local position, it might be easy to take such a course as Mr. Webster has pursued. But he, instead of courting, periled, popularity by his course.

THE COMPROMISE.

The following are the Bills referred to in the Report published in our last:

CALIFORNIA.

Whereas the people of California have presented a Constitution and asked admission into the Union, which constitution was submitted to Congress by the President of the United States, by message, dated February thirteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty, and which, on due examination, is found to be republican in its form of government:

Be it enacted, &c. That the State of California shall be one, and is hereby declared to be one, of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That until the representatives in Congress shall be apportioned according to an actual enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States, the State of California shall be entitled to two representatives in Congress.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the said State of California is admitted into the Union upon the express condition that the people of said State, through their Legislature or otherwise, shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the public lands within its limits, and shall pass no law and do no act whereby the title of the United States to, and right to dispose of, the same shall be impaired or questioned; and that they shall never lay any tax or assessment of any description whatsoever upon the public domain of the United States; and in no case shall non-resident proprietors, who are citizens of the United States, be taxed higher than residents; and that all the navigable waters within the said State shall be common highways, and forever free, as well to the inhabitants of said State as to the citizens of the United States, without any tax, impost, or duty thereof: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed as recognising or rejecting the propositions tendered by the people of California as articles of compact in the ordinance adopted by the Convention which formed the constitution of that State.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That all laws of the United States which are not locally inapplicable, shall have the same force and effect within the said State of California as elsewhere within the United States.

THE TERRITORY OF UTAH.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That all that part of the territory of the United States included within the following limits, to wit, bounded on the west by the State of California, on the north by the Territory of Oregon, and on the east and south by the dividing ridge which separates the waters flowing into the Colorado river and the gulf of California, be, and the same is hereby, created into a temporary Government, by the name of the Territory of Utah: Provided, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to inhibit the Government of the United States from dividing said Territory into two or more Territories; in such manner and at such times as Congress shall deem convenient and proper, or from attaching any portion of said territory to any other State or Territory of the United States.

Important from Porto Rico—Threatened Bombardment.

We have already mentioned that Capt. Beach and several American sailors, had been imprisoned at Mayaguez, by the Spanish authorities, and that the United States Sloop-of-war Albany, Capt. Randolph, had gone there to demand their release. On the arrival of the Albany, the Captain of the Port made his boast that if the Captain of the Yankee man-of-war wanted his countrymen, he must come ashore and take them.

The next day Captain Randolph hauled in his ship close to the town, shotted his guns, and sent Lieut. Ridgely ashore with a notification that if the men were not instantly delivered up he would fire upon the town. This caused a great commotion, and the men were released somewhat in a hurry. Capt. Randolph deserves all praise for his prompt and proper conduct in this affair, and it will have the effect of putting a stop to the outrages which have, for some time, been practised at Mayaguez upon American commerce and right.—Balt. Clipper.

SUPERIOR COURT.

Superior Court, Spring term, Craven County, was in session in New Bern, during the past week, his honor Judge Bailey presiding.—The case of the most importance was the trial of Mrs. Aliph Riggs for the murder of negro boy Lewis, whom she found in her yard after dark. We took some notes of the evidence set up the plea of insanity. His honor charged, that if the jury was satisfied that the Prisoner was insane, that ended the case; if not satisfied, it was a case of manslaughter.—The jury retired about 6 o'clock, and rendered a verdict of not guilty, on the ground of insanity.—Newbern Republican.

PROVIDENTIAL ESCAPE.

Charles, between 3 and 4 years old, son of Mr. Wm. J. Love, Jr. of this town, fell into a well on Wednesday afternoon. The well was 23 feet deep, and had water in the barrel only at the bottom of the well. There had been a ladder placed in the well to get out a bucket that had fallen in, which remained there. The little fellow was found holding manfully on to one of the rounds of the ladder, and rescued from his perilous situation. What renders this incident worthy of notice, is, that Charles escaped with very slight injury.—Wil. Com.

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States, including those recognised as citizens by the treaty with the republic of Mexico concluded February second, eighteen hundred and forty-eight.

Sec. 27. And be it further enacted, That the legislative power of the Territory shall be exercised to all rightful subjects of legislation, consistent with the constitution of the United States and the provisions of this act; but no law shall be passed interfering with the primary disposal of the soil, nor in respect to African slavery; no tax shall be imposed upon the property of the U. S.; nor shall the lands or other property of non-residents be taxed higher than the lands or other property of residents. All the laws passed by the Legislative Assembly and Governor shall be submitted to the Congress of the United States, and if disapproved shall be null and of no effect. * * * * *

Sec. 38. And be it further enacted, That all laws of the U. States which are not locally inapplicable shall have the same force and effect within the said Territory of New Mexico as elsewhere within the United States.

PROPOSITION TO TEXAS.

Sec. 39. And be it further enacted, That the following propositions shall be and hereby are offered to the State of Texas, which, being agreed to by the said State in an act passed by the General Assembly thereof, within _____ months from the day of the passage of this act shall be binding and obligatory on the United States:

First. The northern boundary of said State shall be as follows: Beginning at the point on the Rio del Norte commonly called El Paso, and running up that river twenty miles, measured by a straight line thereon, and thence eastwardly to a point where the hundredth degree of west longitude crosses Red river, being the southwest angle in the line designated between the United States and Mexico, and the same angle in the line of the territory set apart for the Indians by the United States.

Second. The United States cede to the State of Texas all right, claim, and title which they have to any territory lying south of the line aforesaid; and the said State of Texas cede to the United States all right, claim, and title which it has to any territory lying north of the said line.

Third. The State of Texas relinquishes to the United States all claim upon them for liability for any portion of the debts of Texas, and for compensation and indemnity for the surrender to the United States of her ships, forts, arsenals, custom houses, revenue derived from foreign imports, arms and munitions of war, and public buildings, with their sites, which became the property of the United States at the time of the annexation of Texas.

Fourth. The United States, in consideration of three preceding articles, and considering that a portion of the creditors of Texas were pledged the duties on foreign imports receivable in her ports, as a security for the reimbursement of the loans and advances which they made to the said State, and that the said duties, since the annexation of the said State to the U. States, have been received, and are receivable by them, will pay to the State of Texas the sum of _____ dollars, in a stock bearing five per cent. interest, payable half yearly at the treasury of the United States, the principal to be redeemable at the end of fourteen years; which said stock shall be at first applied to the extinction of any debt for which the duties on imports were pledged as aforesaid, and the residue thereof in such manner as the said State may direct: Provided, That nothing herein contained is to be construed to imply or admit the liability of the United States for any portion of the public debt of Texas.

Fifth. Immediately after the president of the United States shall have officially received an authentic copy of the act of the General Assembly of Texas accepting these propositions, he shall cause the stock aforesaid to be issued and delivered to the lawful agent of the State of Texas, as provided for in the fourth article aforesaid; and this compact shall be binding and obligatory on the United States and the said State of Texas.

Sixth. If the said State of Texas shall refuse or decline to accede to the preceding articles, they shall become null and void, and the United States shall be remitted back to all their territorial rights, in the same state and condition as if these articles of compact had never been tendered to the acceptance of the State of Texas.

FUGITIVE SLAVES.

Sec. —. And be it further enacted, That when any person held to service or labor in any State or Territory, or in the District of Columbia, under the laws thereof, shall escape therefrom, the party to whom such service or labor shall be due, his or their agent, attorney, guardian, or trustee, may apply to any court of record therein and make satisfactory proof to such court of the escape aforesaid, and that the person escaping owed service or labor to such party. Whereupon the court shall cause a record to be made of the matters so proved, and also of a general description of the person so escaping, with such convenient certainty as may be; and a transcript of such record, authenticated by the attestation of the clerk, and of the seal of the said court, being produced in any other State, Territory, or District in which the person so escaping may be found, and being exhibited to any judge, commissioner, or other officer, authorized by the law of the United States to cause persons escaping from service or labor to be delivered up, shall be held and taken to be full and conclusive evidence of the fact of escape, and that the service or labor of the person escaping is due to the party in such record mentioned. And upon the production by the said party of oral and further evidence, if necessary, either oral or by affidavit, in addition to what is contained in the said record of the identity of the person escaping, he or she shall be delivered up to the claimant. And the said court, commissioner, judge, or other person authorized by this act to grant certificates to claimants of fugitives, shall, upon the production of the record and other evidences aforesaid, grant to such claimant a certificate of his right to take any such person identified and proved to be owing service or labor as aforesaid, which certificate shall authorize such person to the State or Territory from which he escaped.

And be it further enacted.

That in case the alleged fugitive shall declare to the court, judge, or commissioner, or other officer before whom he is brought, that he is a free man and not a slave, and the said court, judge, or commissioner, or other officer, shall decide to grant the certificate herein authorized, empowering the removal of the said fugitive to the State from which he or she shall have fled, the said court, judge, or commissioner, or other officer, shall require of the claimant or his agent to enter into a bond, without surety, to the U. States, in the sum of one thousand dollars, that the

Sec. 26. And be it further enacted.

That every free white male inhabitant above the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of said Territory at the time of the passage of this act, shall be entitled to vote at the first election, and be eligible to any office within the said Territory; but the qualifications of voters and of holding office at all subsequent elections, shall be such as shall be prescribed by the Legislative Assembly: Provided, That the right of suffrage and of holding office shall be exercised only by citizens of the United

Sec. 21. And be it further enacted.

That all laws of the United States, which are not locally inapplicable, shall have the same force and effect within the said Territory of Utah as elsewhere within the United States.

TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO.

Sec. 22. And be it further enacted, That all that portion of the territory of the United States acquired from Mexico by the treaty concluded February second, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, and not included within the limits of the State of California, nor within the limits of the Territory of Utah as prescribed in this act, be and the same is hereby, erected into a temporary government by the name of the Territory of New Mexico: Provided, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to inhibit the Government of the United States from dividing said Territory into two or more Territories, in such manner and at such times as Congress shall deem convenient and proper, or from attaching any portion thereof to any other Territory or State.

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