

TERMS OF THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.
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LETTERS to the Editor must be post paid.

[SELECTED FOR THE WATCHMAN]
From the New York Observer.

Uncle Eben on ministerial Cheating.

"It is too bad," said Uncle Eben, "it did not use to be so: this ministerial cheating is one of the degenerate signs of the times."

This remark of Uncle Eben was not the result of any previous conversation, but of certain processes of thought which had been going on in his mind. [Mr. Jenkins had been sitting by his side some twenty minutes, reading a newspaper.— If a friend called when Uncle Eben was busy thinking, a newspaper was handed him, and he was expected to read till his host should be ready to engage in conversation. That readiness was sometimes indicated by a question, but more frequently by a remark which led to conversation on the subject which occupied his thoughts.]

"The expression you have used," said Mr. Jenkins, willingly laying aside the newspaper, "is equivocal. It may mean cheating of ministers, or cheating by ministers."

"That is true," said Uncle Eben.

"In which sense should it be taken?" said Mr. J.

"In both senses."

"Did no one cheat ministers in former days?"

"Not very often. I remember a story told me by my father, which shows how rogues used to feel towards ministers. It happened when my father was a small boy, more than seventy years ago. One of the minister's fowls had gone to one of the neighbors, and took up his quarters, there. A thiefish fellow went one night and robbed the roost, taking among the other fowls, the minister's. When he came to examine his spoil, he knew the one which belonged to the minister, and so he took him home, and thus brought himself out as the thief. In those days, my father said, if a man wronged a minister he was looked upon as a sort of Algerine."

"Human nature is pretty much the same at all times. I suspect there were men then as well as now, who would take the advantage of a minister notwithstanding his black coat."

"There were not many Christian men who would do it in those days."

"There are not many Christian men who would do it now."

"You are not wont to speak harshly of your brethren; I hardly know how to take you?"

"You must take me as I say. To be sure the word *cheating* may not be the precise word to express my idea. Cheating involves the idea of deception or trickery. The wrong which is often practised on ministers does not often involve that idea. But that matters not. What I say is, that many Christian men are guilty of dishonesty towards ministers."

"That is a hard saying: I suppose you are ready to prove it."

"Of course I am, or I should not have said it. Let us suppose a case that will aid us in getting right ideas of this matter. You owe me, we will say, a hundred dollars."

"You engage to pay me on the first of July, and you put your name upon paper to that effect. In consequence of that agreement, I form certain engagements."

The first of July comes, and I hear nothing from you. My engagements become due, and I must meet them as I can."

"Some time in the fall I go to you, and ask you for that money that was due on the first of July. You tell me you havn't it then, or it is not convenient for you to pay then—that you will probably have it before long. The next week, you take all your family a hundred miles to hear Jenny Lind, or you re-furnish your wife's parlor, or give a costly entertainment, for which the cash is paid. What sort of a man would it take to do such things?—What would you think of yourself if you were capable of treating me in the way I have supposed?"

"I should not call myself an honest man."

"Certainly not. And if you knew I had suffered not only vexation but positively loss by your conduct; if you knew that my family had lacked bread on that account, you would not like to meet me."

"I should not."

"Well, now let me suppose another case. A parish—that is, the men who compose it, a majority of whom, to say the least, are confessedly Christian men, invite a minister to settle with them, and promise to pay him six hundred dollars a year, in two equal semi-annual payments. The first payment becomes due: only a small part of it is paid. The minister made his engagements in view of the promises made by the parish to pay him at a certain time. He has promised the merchant his money by that day. He cannot fulfil his promise for a very obvious reason, but of which will not be taken into account by the merchant. 'Ministers,' he will say, 'should keep their promises.—They can do no good unless they practise what they preach. Other men, it is to be expected, may fail to keep their word; but a minister, if he wishes to stand fair with the public, must keep his promises.'

The minister bears the cold looks of the merchant for several months, when, hearing nothing about his semi annual payment, and calls on the treasurer of the parish. The treasurer is sorry that there is no money in the treasury. The minister informs him of his embarrassment.—

He is now very sorry, and will speak to Mr. A. and Mr. B. who have not paid their

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

J. J. BRUNER,
Editor & Proprietor.

{ KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR
RULERS.



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

NEW SERIES.
VOLUME VII—NUMBER 52.

SALISBURY, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1851.

From the Goldsboro' Telegraph.
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
IN PITT.

The reader will remember, that we published a short time since, an extract from the correspondence of the Southern Baptist, in which it was stated, that British Crown, prior to Mecklenburg, and that we requested some friend in the county to give us further information upon the subject. In reply to this request we have received communication from a gentleman residing there, containing a transcript of the resolves, which we publish below. From them it appears, that after all, Pitt must yield to Mecklenburg the honor of having moved first in the noble work, since the Declaration of the former was made on the 20th of May, A. D. 1775. This circumstance, however, detracts but slightly from the credit to which she is entitled, since it is very probable, on account of the poor facilities for intercommunication in those days, that she had adopted her resolutions before she heard of the act of her sister country. Under any circumstances, they reflect honor upon the county and breathe the spirit of a high minded, patriotic, and determined people, a spirit which we venture to predict still animates the bosoms of their descendants, and which will develop itself in action, should the future prove that their lot has been cast in those "times that try men's souls."

We hope that our friend will pardon us for publishing so much of his letter as will throw light upon the subject:

GRENVILLE, April 4, 1851.

My Dear Friend:—I saw some time ago, an extract in your paper taken from a paper published in the Western part of the State, which stated that the people of Pitt county had declared Independence even anterior to the people of Mecklenburg, as evidenced by records in our Register's Office. * * *

The records alluded to, are the proceedings of the Committees of Safety for this county, during Revolutionary times. They are now very much worn, but are still perfectly legible, being written in a very plain and handsome penmanship. Several years ago I examined them, and took a copy, and often thought that I would send to some paper for publication.

The copies that I now send, are the nearest approaches to a Declaration of Independence that I can find. The one of 1st July, is a part of the proceedings of the Committee, and is inserted as such by the Secretary, as it appears never to have been part of the said proceedings.

It is on a separate piece of paper, and in a different handwriting from the other, and the signers, with the exception of a very few, are different persons. It has been preserved,

however, in the same book with the Committee's proceedings. This last may have been prepared by some member, for those citizens to sign, who did not have an opportunity of signing the first; or it may be the separate declaration of a party's disagreeing upon some trivial point with the Committee party, and appended to their proceedings for preservation. I have preserved in these copies, the punctuation, spelling, and capital letters of the originals. Martinborough was the ancient name of this town.

Yours ever sincerely,

GEO. V. STRONG,
Goldsborough.

MARTINBOROUGH, July 1st, 1775.

The Committee of the county met according to Order as Before Mentioned, and has entered into the following association.

We the Subscribers Freeholders and inhabitants of the County of Pitt and Town of Martinborough, being deeply affected with the Present alarming state of this Province and of all America.

Do Resolve, that we will Pay all Dew Al-

liediance to his Majesty King George the Third, and Endeavor to continue to succession of his

Crown, in the Illustrious house of Hanover, as

by Law Established against the present or any

future Wicked Ministry of Arbitrary Set of

men, whatsoever. At the same time, We are

Determined to assert our Rights as Men, and

sensible that by the Late Acts of Parliament

the most Valuable Liberties and Privileges of

America are invaded and endeavored to be Vi-

cated and Destroyed, and that under God, the

reservation of them, Depends on a Firm Uni-

on of the Inhabitants, and a steady, speared

observation of the resolutions of the General

Congress, being shocked at the cruel scene

now acting in the Massachusetts Bay and De-

termined never to become Slaves, to any Power

upon Earth.

We do hereby Agree, and associate under

all the Tyres of Religion Honor and regard

for Posterity, that we will Adopt and Endeavor

to Execute the Measures which the Gen-

eral Congress now Sitting at Philadelphia may

conclude on for Preserving our Constitution

and Opposing the Execution of the Several

Arbitrary, Illegale Acts of the British Parlia-

ment and that we will readily observe. The Di-

rection of our General Committee for the Pur-

poses aforesaid, the Preservation of Peace and

Good Order, and security of Individuals, and

private Property."

Signed by JOHN SIMPSON, Ch'm'n..

and 92 others.

The Subscribers, professing our allegiance

to the King, and acknowledging the constitu-

tional executive power of Government, do so-

lennily protest and testify and declare, that we

do absolutely believe that neither the parlia-

ment of Great Britain, nor any member or con-

stituent branch thereof, have a right to impose

taxes upon these Colonies to regulate the inter-

nal policy thereof, and that all attempts, by

fraud or force, to establish and exercise such

claims and powers are violations of the peace

and security of the people and ought to be re-

sisted to the utmost, and that the people of this

Province, singly and collectively are bound by

the acts and resolutions of the continental and

provincial Congresses, because in both they

are freely represented by persons chosen by

themselves, and we do solemnly and sincerely

promise and engage, under the sanction of Vir-

tue, honour, and the sacred love of liberty and

our Country to maintain and support all every

the Acts, Resolutions and Regulations, of the

Continental and provincial Congresses, to the utmost of our power and abilities. In testimony whereof, we have set our hands, this 23d Day of August 1775."

Signed by 77 persons.

THE KENT COUNTY MASSACRE.

Confession of the Murder—Drummond turned States evidence—four of them implicated arrested—the Police in pursuit of the fifth, &c.

HAVRE DE GRACE, April 18, 8 p.m.—There has been great excitement here to day, in consequence of the arrival of an officer from Cheshire, who immediately proceeded to arrest a man named Nicholas Murphy, on the charge of being one of the murderers of the Cosden family, at the Georgetown Cross Roads, in Kent county.

It will be remembered that a man, named Thomas Drummond, was arrested in Cecil county, about the first of March, on suspicion of having been connected with the murder, and lodged in jail, where he has remained ever since. The evidence against him was, that on Wednesday evening, 26th ult., the day of the massacre, he disappeared from the neighborhood suddenly, and without assigning any cause for his departure, and could give no satisfactory account of his movements during the interval.

He alleged that he lodged at the house of a man by the name of Ford (who lives in the neighborhood of Black Bird) on the night of the murder, which declaration Ford corroborated, but stated that Drummond did not arrive at the house until a late hour of the night.

One of the pockets of his pantaloons bore the distinct impression of a bloody hand; Murphy, the man arrested here to day, came forward and testified that he and Drummond were out together on the afternoon and night of the murder, hunting muskrats.

Drummond, notwithstanding this testimony, was still held for further examination, and has now confessed, declaring that Murphy, Shelton, Ford, Sills and Taylor, are the parties who committed the bloody outrage. They have all been arrested except Shelton, and the officers are in pursuit of him. This is not the Shelton the miller, who was among the first arrested. Ford is the same man who testified that Drummond did not reach his house until after midnight.

I learn from the officer who arrested Murphy that Drummond declares that he had no hand in the matter himself, and that the only object of the band was plunder—that his guilt only consists in a knowledge of the conspiracy before the deed was committed.

Webster, the uncle of Mrs. Cosden, who has so long rested under the suspicion of having been the instigator of this dreadful tragedy, seems to be in no manner implicated by the confession of Drummond, who intimates that if some of the Cosden family had not escaped and given the alarm, it was their intention to have followed up the plunder of work and blood, and that other families would have been massacred the same night.

Murphy, on being arrested, appeared to be the least concerned of all the crowd assembled. Ford and Sills have been lodged in jail at Elkton.

Yours, W. W. L.

AN ACT

To amend the 51st section of the 102d chapter of the Revised Statutes.

Sec. 1. 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 hereafter it shall be the duty of the several sheriffs in this State, to advertise the sales of lands for taxes due thereon, at least ninety days in some newspaper published in their respective counties, where there is any paper published in such county; and in counties where there may not be a paper published, the sheriffs shall advertise such sales in the nearest newspaper to such county: Provided, however, that in the case of the sale of the lands for taxes of non-residents or of persons living beyond the limits of this State, that the same shall be advertised in some newspaper published in the city of Raleigh, in addition to the advertisement as hereinbefore provided.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That so much of the 51st section of the chapter 102 of the Revised Statutes, as requires all sales of lands for taxes to be advertised in the State Gazette, or some other newspaper published in Raleigh, in addition to the advertisement as hereinbefore provided, shall be repealed, so far as regards the sale of lands for taxes owned by persons residing in this State; and, in such cases, it shall be the duty of the sheriffs or their deputies to advertise such lands in some newspaper published in the county wherein such lands are situated; and if there be no such paper, then in such newspaper as shall be published nearest thereto: Provided, it shall still be the duty of the sheriff to advertise the sale of the lands of non-residents, or of such persons as live beyond the limits of the State as heretofore prescribed by law.

Sec. 3. 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 so much of the said section as directs the advertisement of land for sale of taxes in the State Gazette, or some other newspaper published in the city of Raleigh, and the same is hereby repealed, so far as regards the sale of lands for taxes owned by persons residing in this State; and, in such cases, it shall be the duty of the sheriffs or their deputies to advertise such lands in some newspaper published in the county wherein such lands are situated; and if there be no such paper, then in such newspaper as shall be published nearest thereto: Provided, it shall still be the duty of the sheriff to advertise the sale of the lands of non-residents, or of such persons as live beyond the limits of the State as heretofore prescribed by law.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That all laws and clauses of laws, coming in conflict with the above provisions, be, and the same are